FO 816/118

N
1328

SECRET

S | 1014 | 48

(5th Jacket)

BRITISH ~~RESIDENT'S OFFICE~~ Legation

AMMAN

TRANS-JORDAN.

(Vol IV) FO 816/118

N1327

N 1328

SUBJECT: Palestine - Partition of -
Palestine Trusteeship

T.S.

GPP. 9731—1000—11-3-40

CONNECTED FILES

NUMBER AND YEAR	SUBJECT
S/852/46	
S/1027/48	Future of Jerusalem

Group FO
Class 816
Piece 118

S | 1014 | 48

(5th)

Palestine.

(1)

ب

عمان البرق
23 AP 48
خاتم التاريخ
AMMAN TELEGRAPHS

BRITISH LEGATION
23
AMMAN

20.20

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

Received at وصلت مكتب

Date بتاريخ 23/4

الساعة h. 14 الدقيقة m. 35 وقت الوصول

قبلها المأمور

تعليمات مصلحية

5/4/48

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الأصلي Original No	المصدر Origin
17	35	23/4	416	16A	Jerusalem

a m قبل الظهر
p m بعد

To .... الى

Most Immediate Addressed to the secretary of State 1104 repeated to washington 287 bracket please pass to ukdel 1157 unbracket beirut 1158 damascus 1159 amman 1160 baghdad 41 jeddah 35 british consul aleppo 1161 minim cairo 59 bracket please pass to ambassador and c in c

From من

١٧

ب ٥ ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب Date .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM .... تعليمات مصلحية	خاتم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a m بعد p m						

- 2 -

To الى

unbracket stop my telegram 1076 repeated washington 278 ukdel 1126 minimin cairo 55 sent to others colon and my telegram 1094 to washington 282 minimin 9 repeated to all arab posts stop haifa stop following is second report begins following the withdrawal of british forces to positions covering the port area jews

From من

ب ٥ ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب D............ بتاريخ الساعة الدقيقة h. m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM .... تعليمات مصلحية	ختم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الأصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a m بعد p m		— 3 —				

To الى attacked arab outposts at bury hill [illegible]
telephone exchange and prophets steps and
succeeded in occupying them during the
night stop Khoury house the headquarters
of the palestine railways was occupied by
arab forces stop it took fire during the
From من engagement and was gutted all railway

ب ٤٥

Received at .... وصلت مكتب

Date .... بتاريخ

وقت الوصول — الساعة h. — الدقيقة m.

.... قبلها المامور

﴿ مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن ﴾

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

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تعليمات مصلحية ....

خاتم التاريخ

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الأصلي Original No	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة m.	الساعة h.
						قبل الظهر a m / بعد p m

— 4 —

To الى

records being destroyed stop para. 2 by 0940 hours 21st april jews had occupied salameh house behind police headquarters and were converging on Khamra square from positions occupied during night at stanton street and burj hill stop at the same time arabs were evacuating

From من

ب ٥ ٤

Received at ———— وصلت مكتب

Date ———— بتاريخ

الساعة الدقيقة وقت الوصول

h. m.

———— قبلها المامور

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

———— تعليمات مصلحية

ختم التاريخ

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الاصلي Original No	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة m.	الساعة h.
			— 5 —			قبل الظهر a m / بعد p m

To الى

in large numbers and the suq area was deserted stop prisoners from lock up were released and the arab legion took over the building some time later stop para. 3 by 1015 hours arab casualties had been admitted to the amir hospital stop hospital and staff were then

From من

ب ه ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب

Date .... بتاريخ

الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول

.... قبلها المامور

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

.... تعليمات مصلحية

خاتم التاريخ

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الاصلي Original No	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة m.	الساعة h.
						قبل الظهر a m بعد p m

To الى

being evacuated to government hospital haifa stop para. 4 towards midday the fighting slackened considerably stop jews had complete control of Khamra square and Stanton Street areas comma were firing from their positions in the sug areas and had appeared in strength

From من

ب ٥ ٤

(Recei)ved at .... وصلت مكتب (D)ate .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM تعليمات مصلحية	ختم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الأصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
a m قبل الظهر p m بعد			— 7 —			

To الى

in eastern quarter from waddi rushmiyeh [illegible] to tel amal stop arab women and children and others were still being evacuated from the suq area through the port to acre and other safe areas stop arabs were by this time suing for truce and jews had replied they were prepared to consider it if the arabs

From من

٤

...ed at .... وصلت مكتب Date .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM .... تعليمات مصلحية	خاتم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a m بعد p m			8			

To الى

stopped shooting stop para. 5 at 1700 hours gene[ral]
arab resistance had ceased in eastern area with
exception of a few isolated posts and jews were
in possession of Aug as far as eastern gate the
in wadi misnas area battle was still go[ing]
on stop arab casualties in this area beli[eved]
to be considerable stop para. 6 at 18[00]

From من

ب ه ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب بتاريخ .... الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM تعليمات مصلحية	ختم التاريخ

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الاصلي Original No	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة m.	الساعة h.
						a m قبل الظهر p m بعد

To .... الى

— 9 —

[house?] arab leaders met to consider final terms laid down at joint. meeting of arabs and jews ends.

Highcomma

من

Received at Amman وصلت مكتب

Date 27/4 بتاريخ

الساعة h. 18 الدقيقة m. 50 وقت الوصول

قبلها المامور [illegible]

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

تعليمات مصلحية Bgovt

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
12	04	27/4	328	13A	L	[illegible]

a m قبل الظهر
p m بعد

Jerusalem

To Most Immediate Prohaisin amman

To secretary of state london no 1094 repeated to dam. no 1140 beirut no 1141 amman no 1142 jeddah 34 aden no 1143 british consul aleppo no 1144 l no 40 minister cairo no 9 (please pass to ambassador and c in c) washington no 282 (please pass

From

to ukdel no 1145) your telegram no 159

TELEGRAPHS AMMAN 27 4 48

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

ب ٥ ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب e .... بتاريخ وقت الوصول الدقيقة m. الساعة h. .... قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM .... تعليمات مصلحية	خاتم التاريخ

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الاصلي Original No	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة m.	الساعة h.
				-2-	m m	قبل الظهر a بعد p

To الى

Repeating cairo to foreign office no 494 to me as no 51 haifa jewish attack at haifa was direct consequence of continuous attacks by arabs on jews in haifa over previous four days attack was carried out by haganah and there was no massacre arabs in haifa were thus themselves responsible

From من

for this outbreak in spite of our repeated

ب ه ٤

Received at ———— وصلت مكتب
Date ———— بتاريخ

الساعة	الدقيقة	وقت الوصول
h.	m.	

قبلها المامور

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

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تعليمات مصلحية

خاتم التاريخ

الإشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الأصلي Original No	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة m.	الساعة h.

قبل الظهر a m
بعد p m

- 3 -

To الى

warnings far from refusing to intervene military commander at haifa did everything possible to stop the fighting by negotiation and himself presided at two meetings yesterday in endeavour to arrange a truce. 2 terms demanded by Jews are surrender of arab arms and evacuation of arab foreigners from haifa

From من

ب ٥ ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM تعليمات مصلحية	ختم التاريخ
[.]e .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المامور		

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a m بعد p m		— 4 —				

To الى

these are not terms demanded by mili-
tary commander who is prepared to impound
arab arms and not to hand over to jews
if truce can be got on this basis it will
be remembered that at Kfar etzion arms
surrendered by jews were seized by arabs.

From من 3 arabs appealed to military commander

ب ٥ ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب Date .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM .... تعليمات مصلحية	خاتم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a m / بعد p m						

— 5 —

To .... الى

to assist in evacuating Amman hospital commanding
officer of coldstream guards was wounded in
this operation and two other officers were
wounded while supervising evacuation by sea.
4 as always army is completely impartial
and any suggestion that they are taking

From .... من

sides is not only untrue but deeply

ب ٥ ٤

Received at ——— وصلت مكتب Date ——— بتاويخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول ——— قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM تعليمات مصلحية	خاتم التاريخ

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الاصلي Original No	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة m.	الساعة h.
						قبل الظهر a m بعد p m

To ——— الى

~~[illegible]~~ retreated. 5 casualties reported at present are Jews 14 killed 40 wounded arabs 400 killed 100 wounded approximately not yet known number of casualties among women and children who were involved in the battle but there was no repeat no question of

From ——— من

~~massacre. 6 grateful if effect of above~~

ب هـ ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب Date .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM .... تعليمات مصلحية

خاتم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الأصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a m بعد p m						

To .... 7 .... الى

might be conveyed at once to [illegible] Pasha and other arab governments.

Highcomme

From .... من

6. CS.725/2. (3)

Clear.

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

5/1014/48

Secretary of State.

1300 hrs. 15.4.48.

IMMEDIATE.

No.1000.

Repeated Washington 263, UKDEL 1042 Damascus 1043.
Saving: MEMIN (please pass to Ambassador, C-in-C) Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Aden, British Consul, Aleppo.

INCIDENT REPORT APRIL 14th.

(1) In early hours of the morning armed Jews attacked Arab Suq area of TIBERIAS. Attack was covered by heavy mortar and machinegun fire. Three houses ~~k~~ were blown up. Casualties was 1 Arab killed and 1 wounded; 1 Jew believed wounded. Curfew has been imposed on town and lake. Military are picketing the town.

(2) During the morning armed Arabs held up two army vehicles and stole 4 sten guns, a rifle and some ammunition. One British soldier who resisted was shot and seriously wounded.

(3) Latest casualty figures in SHEIKH JARRAH incident (see my telegram 984) are Jews 34 killed 21 wounded British soldiers 2 killed 2 wounded and 1 British police officer wounded.

(4) Arab services state 12 Arabs were killed and 15 wounded in MISHMAR HA'EMEK area on April 13th.

(5) Casualties in other incidents:-

Arabs 3 killed 7 wounded.

Jews 4 wounded.

(Mr. Hone).
15.4.48.

OS 725/2

(4)

14. Clear.

BRITISH LEGATION
AMMAN

Secretary of State.

16.4.48. at 2000 hrs.

No. 1016 IMMEDIATE.

Repeated to Washington No. 267, UKDEL No. 1058, Damascus No. 1059 Saving: MEMIN (Please pass to Ambassador, C-in-C), Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Aden, British Consul Aleppo.

INCIDENT REPORT APRIL 15th.

(1) During the morning Jews in YEMEN MOSHE Quarter of Jerusalem fired on a Greek Consulate car. No damage or casualties.

(2) During the morning two armoured trolleys containing 6 British soldiers on railway patrol were blown up between REHOVOTH and YIBNA. 3 soldiers were killed, one seriously and two slightly wounded.

(3) During the afternoon in HAIFA unknown persons believed Arabs shunted an oil tank railway wagon into siding of a Jewish owned flour mill. Jewish suspicious were aroused and alarm was given. After 15 minutes the wagon blew up causing damage estimated between twenty and thirty thousand pounds. Two Jews were slightly wounded in the explosion. Following this incident firing broke out in the town between Arabs and Jews. No casualties reported.

(4) During evening April 14th four oil trucks proceeding by road towards Jerusalem were fired upon by Jews near NEVE YA'ACOV. The driver of the last vehicle was killed and his mate wounded. The vehicle containing kerosene and benzine was set alight and completely destroyed.

(5) A military convoy proceeding from Jerusalem to RAFA was fired upon by Arabs near Gaza. One British and one Mauritian soldier were wounded.

(6) In the incidents following casualties occurred

British	2 wounded
Arabs	3 killed 4 wounded
Jews	9 wounded.

(Mr. Hone) 17/4/48

C.S. 795/2

1. Clear.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

17.4.48 at 1300 hrs.

No.1018. IMMEDIATE.

Repeated to Washington No.268, UKDEL No.1061, Damascus No.1062.

Saving : MEMIN (Please pass to Ambassador, C-in-C), Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Aden, British Consul Aleppo.

INCIDENT REPORT APRIL 16th.

(1) In early hours of the morning approximately 500 Jews attacked SARIS Arab village Jerusalem District and after demolishing 25 houses, a mosque and a school, withdrew. Three Arab women aged between 75 and 80 were killed in the attack. Other Arab and Jewish casualties are not known. A turreted armoured car of R.A.F. type was used in the attack.

(2) During the afternoon armed Jews cordoned LUBBAN Railway Station and stole cement and C.R.L. stores.

(3) Machine gun and mortar fire continued throughout the day in HAIFA. It has not been possible to obtain details of Arab and Jewish casualties.

(4) During afternoon near IBN EIBI village Gaza district Jews in armoured cars attacked occupants of an Arab truck, killing 10 and wounding 2 Arabs.

(5) During past two or three days 20 Jews are known to have been killed in fighting round MISHMAR HA'EMEK. Unconfirmed reports put Arab casualties at between 40 and 50. Following conferences between the Army, Arabs and Jews on April 14th Arabs have withdrawn from immediate vicinity of the Colony and area is now reported quiet apart from slight sporadic firing.

(6) In other incidents casualties were :-

Arabs 1 killed 2 wounded.

Jews 1 killed 6 wounded.

HC. I.T. [stamp: BRITISH ... AMMAN 10/4/48] C.S. 699/2

TO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

17.4.48 at 1800 hrs.

No.1023 TOP SECRET. IMMEDIATE.

Repeated to Washington No.269 Top Secret (please pass to CADEL as my No.1066).

TOP SECRET SAVING	MIMIR	(please pass to Ambassador (Baghdad and PIGME (Beirut (Damascus (Jedda (Amman (Malta (for C-in-C MED)

My telegram No.937; Weekly intelligence appreciation.

No reply has so far been received from the Arab Higher Committee to my cease fire appeal. All the members of this body are now outside Palestine except Ahmad Hilmi Pasha, who is a cypher. The bitterness resulting from the Deir Yassin massacre has produced an atmosphere in which local Arabs are little inclined to call off hostilities. Certainly there has been no indication of a slackening of tempo.

2. Nor are auguries any better for acceptance of the Security Council's truce plan. The Jews are apparently determined to insist on the withdrawal of the foreign elements of the Liberation Army; a condition which it is impossible that the Arabs should accept. The Arabs for their part are set on ensuring that the truce shall decisively weaken the Hagana; a condition obviously unacceptable to the Jews. Neither side believes that the Security Council possesses either the will or the ability to impose a truce on either or both of the contestants.

3. While there are some indications that the Arab states are ready to consider a trusteeship on certain terms it is striking that the Arabs of Palestine, if one may judge from their press and from contacts with individuals, are vehemently opposed to even a temporary solution on these lines. The press has repeatedly warned that a trusteeship would be merely another mandate, involving continuation of foreign rule for an indefinite period, and serving only as a cloak for further Zionist penetration. The suggestion that during the trusteeship Arabs and Jews should enjoy a wide degree of autonomy is construed as a device to effect the partition of Palestine under the cover of an international authority. Nevertheless if the Arab League were to accept a trusteeship it is likely that the local Arabs would acquiesce.

4. Apart from IHUD and, if common report can be believed, Aliyah Hadasha, there appears to be no element of the Yishuv (outside the Orthodox Jews of Jerusalem) prepared to consider the idea of a trusteeship. Even the United Labour Party, (one of whose main constituent elements, Hashomer Hatzair, was only tardily converted to the Jewish state while the other, Achdut Avoda, had never placed the Jewish state in the forepart of its programme), is at one with Mapai and the Revisionists in

rejecting any postponement of complete Jewish independence.

5. On 12 April, following a meeting in Tel Aviv, the General Zionist Council announced that it had been decided to set up an organ of supreme authority of Jewish national independence in Palestine. With the termination of the Mandatory rule, the resolution continued, the Government of the Jewish state shall come into being. The resolution was remarkable for the omission of any reference whatsoever to the resolution of the U.N. assembly of 29 November.

6. It is reported in the press that the Provisional Council will consist of ten MAPAI, six General Zionists, five Mizrahi and Hapoel Mizrahi, five United Labour Party; three Agudath Israel and Agudath Israel Workers; three Revisionists; one WIZO; one Aliya Hadashah, one Yemenite; one Sephardi, and one Communist. This composition would provide an approximate equality of Right and Left representation. Names of ministers, as currently rumoured are much as forecast.

7. The week has been signalized by some of the worst atrocities of the whole mandatory period. The dissident attack on Deir Yassin, briefly mentioned in my telegram under reference, which caused some 250 deaths of Arab men, women and children, was accompanied by every circumstance of savagery. Women and children were stripped, lined up, photographed and then slaughtered by automatic fire; and survivors have told of other even more incredible bestialities. Those prisoners who were taken were treated with degrading brutality. Even the strong stomach of the Yishuv has suffered some qualms; and though the Haganah is unable to deny that it gave covering fire to the dissidents, the action as a whole has been condemned by the Jewish press and denounced by the Chief Rabbinate. Owing to other preoccupations the security forces were unable to act before Wednesday, for which day an air-strike on Deir Yassin was arranged and aircraft had been brought from Iraq for this purpose. But on Tuesday it became apparent that the Haganah had taken over the village from the dissidents, and the operation was therefore suspended.

8. The Arabs took a partial revenge on 13 April when they ambushed a Jewish hospital convoy passing through the Sheikh Jarrah quarter of Jerusalem, killing and wounding over 60 persons. As a result of this the Hadassah Hospital will now be evacuated and further military assistance has been sought for this.

9. The Arabs have not been slow in contrasting the Army's action against them in this incident with the absence of British intervention after the Jewish attack on Deir Yassin; and while Arab bitterness is naturally directed mainly against the Jews, some deterioration of Arab-British relations has also been noticeable.

10. Hostilities between the Haganah and the Arabs along the eastern sector of the Jerusalem-Jaffa road have continued, generally to the advantage of the Jews, who have brought through 3 large convoys loaded principally with food from Tel Aviv during the week. The Arab village of Qoloniya

was/

was occupied and largely destroyed, and the Jews have occupied SARIS, as a result of which the Arab staff of the Jerusalem water supply pumping station there have left and the water supply is once more out of action.

11. At Mishmar Ha'Emek the Haganah is reported by Arab sources to have gone over to the offensive, pushing back the Liberation Army, occupying a few small Arab villages and (according to their own claims) capturing some "heavy equipment". But on 15 April Mishmar Ha'Emek appealed to the Army for protection against Arab attacks.

12. There appear to have been some further infiltrations of elements of the Liberation Army during the last week in March, one into Samaria and one into Galilee. An Egyptian contingent some 150 strong is believed to have entered Gaza last week. The total number of foreign volunteers is now placed at 7 - 8,000.

13. According to press reports a new and substantial contingent of the Liberation Army, which has just completed training and contains many ex T.J.F.F. personnel, will shortly enter and take up its station in central Palestine (Jerusalem and Lydda districts). The projected organization of the Arab forces, it is said, will be completed when the Egyptian force enters the Gaza-Beersheba district after 15 May.

14. The International Red Cross propose to take over and control as neutral zones certain areas of Jerusalem including Government House and King David Hotel after 15 May.

15. On 12 April Arab employees of the C.R.L. went on strike. The actual cause of dispute was a demand that workers unable to reach their place of employment owing to the security situation should be paid and that a labour-force of 500 should be quartered on the site. Following shots fired at Arab employees on the 9th April a fresh demand was raised that the Company should pay compensation for workers killed or injured on the way to and from work. None of these demands was the company prepared to accept. The [illegible] process has been brought to a standstill and prospects of a settlement are not bright. The strike continues.

OS 723/2

12. Clear

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

S/1014/48

Secretary of State.

18.4.48. at 1300 hrs.

No. 1057 IMMEDIATE Repeated Washington No.271, UKDEL No. 1077, Damascus No. 1079 Saving: [illegible] (please pass to Ambassador, C-in-C), Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Aden, British Consul Aleppo.

INCIDENT REPORT APRIL 17th and 18th.

(1) In early hours April 17th armed Jews believed to be HAGANA attacked WALDHEIM enemy aliens perimeter, Haifa District. Two Germans were killed and four slightly wounded. No casualties to British and Arab guard.

(2) During morning April 17th a military ammunition train was blown up by a mine near BENYAMINA, Haifa District. Armed Jews attacked the British train guard killing three soldiers, wounding three others and taking four others prisoners. It is believed that the Jews stole from the train 20 tons of 3 inch mortar bombs, 5 bren guns, 2 two inch mortars, 10 sten guns, 10 rifles, one revolver and one verey pistol. Jewish casualties are believed to be at least 3 killed.

(3) During night April 16th/17th at Lydda Railway station Arabs attacked shunting engine to wagons containing 3 17-pounder guns and military stores and removed them northward. Military guards believing this tobe normal shunting operation took no action. Engine and empty wagons were later found abandoned near SARAFAND branch line.

(4) During afternoon April 16th Arabs attacked Haganah post in HAIFA (Allenby Road) occupants of which had been harassing Arabs and firing on military and police. Jews were evacuated from the post by military. Arabs seized arms and ammunition left by Jews and then set fire to the building. [redacted] Owing to explosion of a grenade dump in the building fire could not be controlled and this building and one other were gutted.

(5) During afternoon April 18th Jews from NEVE YAACOV Jerusalem District attacked traffic on Jerusalem/ Ramallah road and brought traffic to a stop. In one attack Jews fired on Arab Legion Convoy wounding one officer and three other ranks. Arab Legion returned fire and claim to have killed between 30 and 40 Jews.

(6) Inhabitants of KABIR Village Haifa District reported to Police they had seen Jews take 6 Arabs from a Jewish armoured car and shoot them. Police went to scene and found one Arab badly wounded and bodies of 9others who had been shot and badly disfigured.

(7) During afternoon April 18th Arab population began to evacuate town of TIBERIAS under military supervision. Evacuation completed by 1830 hours. One Arab was killed by a Jewish sniper during the operation.

(8) In other incidents casualties were:-

Arabs	3 wounded
Jews	7 killed 5 wounded.

(Mr. Hone) 20/4/48

En Clear. C.S. 725/2

Secretary of State.

20.4.48 at 1800 hrs.

No. 1059. IMMEDIATE.

275

Repeated: Washington/UKDEL 1100
Damascus 1099.
Saving: MEMIN (please pass to Ambassador, C-in-c), Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Aden, British Consul Aleppo.

INCIDENT REPORT APRIL 19th.

(1) A British army officer and an Arab were abducted by Jews in Jerusalem at noon. The British officer was held for three hours and then released unharmed. The Arab is still being detained.

(2) In other incidents casualties were

Arabs	1 killed 5 wounded
Jews	1 killed 2 wounded

(Mr. Hone)
21.4.48.

6. I.T. Code, Cypher or clear ?

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

S/1014/48 **TELEGRAM**

(9)

C.S.O. 67.

From [redacted]

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PALESTINE

Despatched 1800 hrs. 20.4.48.

To Secretary of State London.

GPP. 27440—10,000—22.4.47

No.1061. IMMEDIATE.

TOP SECRET.

Repeated to H.M.A. WASHINGTON No.276 (Washington please pass to UKDEL No.1104).

Repeated Beirut No.1102, Damascus No.1103, Baghdad No.38, Saving: Amman No... Jedda No.32 MEMIN Cairo No.53, (please pass to Amb.)

I think you should know that on 18th April EMILE GHOURY stated to an officer of this Government that in view of the general Arab demoralisation in PALESTINE, and of fears that, following Arab reverses on the JAFFA road and elsewhere the Jews might occupy the RAMALLAH area and JERUSALEM district, it was necessary to restore public confidence immediately.

To this end he and others were considering persuading the MUFTI to return to PALESTINE now repeat now. Plan would be to keep him in heart of Arab territory somewhere on NABLUS - RAMALLAH boundary. They wished to ascertain what would be Government's attitude towards this proposal.

2. Proposal is of course not repeat not acceptable. Apart from the tremendous Jewish reaction which would be provoked both here and in America by MUFTI's arrival in country before termination of Mandate, we should be placed in a very awkward position by our duty to apprehend him as a prescribed person, and the difficulty of doing so.

3. It is of course also probable that strong Jewish reaction locally would operate to the great harm of the Arabs in their present disorganized state.

4. I am causing GHOURY to be informed tactfully that the proposed visit is not repeat not at present advisable.

5. A recent report indicates that MUFTI is shortly to visit AMMAN to confer with KING ABDULLAH.

(Mr. Fox-Strangways).
21.4.48.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 24/4/48 (21.37) Received 24/4/48 (22.30)

No. 239 of 24th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
Following received from Haifa telegram unnumbered of April 23rd Begin:
SECRET.
From MARRIOT.
My telegram No.201705B.

After consultation with General Officer Commanding Palestine, General STOCKWELL adopted choice B as it was and warned both the Jews and the Arabs early on April 21st that clashes which had been occurring frequently during the past fortnight must cease if peace and order were to be maintained in Haifa.(1) He(1) placed himself at the disposal of both communities to assist that maintenance and disclosed his intention to secure routes and areas necessary for the evacuation. He warned them that he would take measures necessary to ensure no (repeat no) interference with them or with the public services.

2. Fighting increased in Haifa through April 21st and became intensified during the night of April 21st/April 22nd. Early on April 22nd the Arabs approached General Stockwell with a view to his arranging a truce. The discussion occupied the day until 20 hours when the Arabs refused the terms demanded by the Jews. These are contained in my immediately following telegram.

3. We regarded the terms of the truce as actually reasonable and that they were obviously(1) due to the speed with which General Stockwell acted on receiving the Arab ~~refusal~~ DEPUTATION. At 17 hours the local HAGANAH received instructions from TEL AVIV to impose terms which could certainly not (repeat not) have been countenanced by us(1) and would almost certainly not (repeat not) have been accepted by the Arabs in spite of the massacre of ~~them~~ them which would(1) have(1) followed the rejection. The local Haganah however kept their word given to the General in the morning and held to their terms as modified by him.

4/...2

W30057. D1350. 55M. (3 sorts). 10/45.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

4.(1) At 17.30 hours the Arabs asked for an adjournment so that they might consult the other leaders of their community. At 19(1)30 hours they informed us and the Haganah that they could not sign the terms of the truce as they could not guarantee to implement them. They however said that they would with General Stockwell's assistance and under his protection evacuate the Arab population of HAM?OA?OZ?US(1) and agreed that the General seize all arms in Arab possession and take into custody(1) all Europeans who (has been - Sic ? have been) fightin on the Arab side. The Haganah accepted this. No document was signed but verbal assurances were exchanged that all fighting should cease(TW forthwith.

5. Casualties during the past 48 hours (has been - Sic) 2 British killed and a dozen wounded 15 or 20 Jews killed and 30 or 40 wounded 50 to 100 Arabs killed(1) and 100 to 200 wounded.

6. I consider the facts that both the Arab fighting leaders have left Haifa that there is in effect a truce which should last until May 15th unless foreign Arabs are able to stir up more trouble by penetrating the Arab(1) ring at present round Haifa and the moderation of the Jews after victory with the approach to him by the Arabs in defeat are evidence(1) of the respect in which General Stockwell is held by both sides. The peace which reigns for the moment appears to me to show the wisdom of his adopting choice B and the opinion is widely held, provided that the next few hours are quiet a large number of Arabs will remain in Haifa(1) to follow their peaceful pursuits. This is held back by the Haganah and Haifa Arabs alike if not by (gp.undec.) Arabs impression outside. I must however add that there is every sign that with the termination of the mandate and still more with the evacuation of the Army complete, fighting will break out again. I should(1) like to hope that the (gp.undec. federation Sic) shown by the Jews here will be imitated by the Arabs in places where they have been victorious but I fear that the recent victory here may inspire new Arab assaults where they are surer of ~~xxxxxxxx~~ success.

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. as my telegram No.33224.

(HLM/JFS/HA).

W30057/D1250/4A9. 10/45.

/58

BRITISH EMBASSY,

CAIRO.

17th April, 1948.

(124)

No. 199
(1/189/48)

OPEN

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No. 177 of 7th April regarding the infiltration of Arab bands into Palestine, I have the honour to report that I took the opportunity of a visit to the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs on April 11th to make a reference to the note I had recently addressed to him on that subject and reinforced orally the representations made in that note (see my despatch No. 177 of 7th April). I particularly underlined the point that a show of a sense of responsibility (or the reverse) by the Arabs in this respect would have an important influence on the Security Council and the Special Assembly of United Nations Organisation. His Excellency said that note had been taken of our representations and the matter would be up for discussion in the Political Committee of the Arab League now in session. It was, however, a very difficult matter. First of all, it was physically difficult to stop these bands getting to Palestine; secondly they had acted, in his view, as a useful safety valve for the excitement which had been caused by the decision on partition; thirdly, the situation of the Arabs in Palestine was really almost desperate. Whereas the Jews were highly trained, highly organised and disciplined and equipped with homogeneous war material of every kind and the latest pattern, the Arabs were in far different case. Their arms were of every make, collected from here, there and everywhere. They were of limited nature and included very little heavy material, and no aeroplanes, (whereas the Jews had twenty-five aeroplanes). They had hardly any ammunition, and when the British handed over the Mandate and the troops withdrew, the Arabs faced complete massacre at the hands of the Jews. I expressed incredulity over the degree of inequality between Arabs and Jews which he had described, but he re-asserted the truth of what he had said. He told me that the American Ambassador had asked him the day before what he thought of the suggestion for trusteeship. Khashaba Pasha said that he had replied that he thought it might be all right if it was given to the British to administer. They had experience of the country and had gone into the problem, etc. etc. I reminded Khashaba Pasha of the definite decision of His Majesty's Government to withdraw. He said that, alas, he knew this but wished they would remain, and suggested that it was their duty to do so, since they were originally responsible for the problem. I told him that the British public would never agree to this, and to seeing their men murdered and humiliated, while no sort of help came from other interested parties; that while the British were on the stage, everybody else was in the audience, and often throwing things at the actors, while at the same time applauding the idea that they should go on with the play.

2. In/. . .

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

2. In speaking of the whole Palestine situation, Khashaba said that the whole Arab world made no distinction between the Zionists and Jews in general. They did not look on the matter as one invdiving on the Jewish side a political ideological idea. It was for them a matter of Jewish religion against their own religion.

I am sending copies of this despatch to His Majesty's Representatives at Jerusalem, Damascus, Beirut, Amman, Jeddah and Baghdad, and to the British Middle East Office.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

(Sgd.) RONALD CAMPBELL

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

(13)

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To* :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 25/4/48 (13.40) ~~Received~~

No. 249 of 25th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.249 of 25th April.
Repeated for information to UKDEL New York No. 14

	Baghdad	No. 35
	Beirut	No. 21
	Cairo	No. 39
	Damascus	No. 24
	Jeddah	No. 16
SECRET.	B.M.E.O.	No. 30
	(Jerusalem	No. 73 SAVING.)

PALESTINE.

1. The situation in Palestine was discussed last night by King Abdullah the Regent, the Lebanese Prime Minister, the Iraqi Ministers, the Transjordan Ministers and Ismail Safwat. Fauzi Kaoukji was also in Amman but did not attend the meeting. I saw the King and Regent and the Prime Minister of Transjordan this morning.

2. The position is that tremendous public pressure is being brought to bear on the King and on the Regent to intervene with troops in Palestine immediately. The fact that Amman is crowded out with Palestinian refugees and that reports are now coming in of a Jewish offensive in Jerusalem does not make matters any easier. They on the other hand are very apprehensive of embarking on a campaign against forces of unknown strength.

Fauzi el Kaoukji has added to this apprehension by producing a list of fighter aircraft tanks and other heavy equipment said to be possessed by the Jews. Fauzi's motive is doubtless to cover his own admission of defeat and possibly to enable him to justify a withdrawal.

3. The upshot of the conference is that the Lebanese Prime Minister is returning to Cairo bearing a letter from the King to Azzam saying

that/...2

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

that Transjordan cannot cope with the situation alone and before moving must be assured of the full support of other Arab states both as regards men, money and material. The letter asks for the immediate credit of one and a half million pounds. The Regent is also going to Cairo to ascertain whether the Egyptian Government is prepared to help.

4. I saw the Regent alone. He expressed agreement with the King's attitude and said that he felt that Iraq should not become involved unless the other Arab states participated.

As regards the Iraqi Army he said that a small force would probably be sent but that anything like a division was out of the question having regard to possible events in Kurdistan. The non arrival of new fighter aircraft made the ability of the Iraqi air force to intervene doubtful.

5. There is a general slump of Arab morale and an inclination to indulge in recriminations instead of planning to deal with the situation. King Abdullah having got what he has always demanded, freedom to act, is loosing his nerve. The Regent gave me the impression that his main objective was to calm public opinion in Iraq rather than to save Arab Palestine.

The Prime Minister of Transjordan and his colleagues are counselling prudence and are resisting in an admirable manner the hysterical demands for armed intervention by which they are inundated. I have added my own advice to theirs.

Foreign Office please pass UKDEL New York as my telegram No.14

(ASK/HIM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

MESSAGE FORM

(14)

W/T Office Serial No. 531

Cipher Office Serial No.

(86.45) To (HMM. Date 25/4

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN (stamp)

To: Amman

TIME OF ORIGIN: 1... Sec

TIME OF RECEIPT: 1430

S/1014/48

Originators No. 24...

From: Beirut

Number of Groups: 99

Special Instructions: 59 K8 JC

Indication of Priority:

03724 added to FO tel 298
of April 24th, repeated to
Cairo, BMEO, Highcomm
Jerusalem, Amman, Damascus
Baghdad, Jedda and
UKDEL NEW YORK O Palestine O
ABOUT 500 students from the
american university and 500
moslems demonstrated this
morning in BEIRUT in protest
against policy of arab govts O
military intervention was demanded
O After speeches had been made
before govt office in town,
sections of the crowd proceeded
to break windows and destroy
goods in Jewish owned sweet
shop and book shop O
Hatter was set on fire and
stock destroyed O (LONDON ONLY)
Please pass to UKDEL NEW YORK as
my tel 13 (CAIRO ONLY) Please pass
to BMEO O HMMIN

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

(15)

W/T Office Serial No. 532 ~~OE/~~

Cipher Office Serial No.

BRITISH LEGATION 25 APR AMMAN

S/1511/48

Date 25/4

To: Amman

TIME OF ORIGIN 12 1200

TIME OF RECEIPT 0930

From: London

Originators No. 2nd

Number of Groups 228.

Special Instructions

Indication of Priority Important.

167
~~17624~~ INTEL ⊙ Palestine ⊙
Latest authoritative statement
of His Majesty's Govts views
is contained in colonial secretary's
speech of 23 April in first
committee of assembly which contained
following points colon - (I)
He expressed an ~~optimism~~ Opinion (+.30) on merits
of US DRAFT TRUSTEESHIP proposal
(II) He said quote I do not
think that any proposals for
definitive settlement could be
effective unless they were backed by
a very substantial means of enforcement.
It may result from this necessity
that UN is now obliged to aim at
a more modest objective and to
use all the practical means at its
disposal to prevent developments in
Palestine from endangering peace of
world without seeking at this
time to arrive at a final solution
for the problem which has baffled
mandatory power over so long a
period ⊙ In there U.K delegation will

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

Ext. put on: S/894/48.

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
B	

co-operate to the best of its ability subject of course to limitations involved in decisions of my govt to terminate their responsibility for administration of Palestine next month and to withdraw the last of our forces before the beginning of August. (iii) He promised most sympathetic consideration of any practical proposals under which UN might assume responsibilities for holy places.

(iv) He stressed contribution already made by U.K towards problems of displaced persons in Europe and urged that other nations by opening their gates more widely should relieve pressure on Palestine.

Bevin.

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 25/4/48 (16.20) Received 26/4/48 (06.45)

No. INTEL 168 of 24th April, 1948.

IMPORTANT.
CONFIDENTIAL.

No.168 INTEL.

My immediately preceding INTEL.

If questioned regarding press reports suggesting that His Majesty's Government may be contemplating change of policy involving active participation in implementation in support(1) of trusteeship(1) or other arrangements for Palestine, you should(1) say that these reports are without foundation.

(HLM/JS/HA).

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

(W/T)

FILE NO. 581/Sec.

TELEGRAM.

17

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, BAGHDAD. *To :* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 24/4/48 (22.24) Received 24/4/48 (23.15)

No. 55 of 24th April, 1948.

IMPORTANT. SECRET.
Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.445 of April 24th.
Repeated to B.M.E.O., Amman and Saving Beirut(1)Cairo,Damascus,Jedda.
My telegram No.(gp.from ID) 408 - ~~[illegible]~~Internal situation.

The Regent refused to accept the resignation of the Minister of Defence and the latter consequently withdrew it. He remains reluctantly in the Government and if there is serious trouble he will probably leave it. He does not wish to be the Prime Minister at this time since he knows that his unpopularity would make it difficult for him to handle the situation. Mohammed(1) HABIB's(1)resignation has been advised(1) by the Regent.

2. The events in Palestine have had an effect on the situation here. The nationalists feel that the Iraqi Government will take some action in regard to Palestine and the leaders seem to have advised their followers to keep(1) quiet and not to embarass the Government. The communists, in view of the Russian attitude towards Palestine, do not wish to incur increased unpopularity at this juncture by taking too forward a line. An uneasy sort of Armistice seems to be coming into being but there have been demonstrations today over the events in Haifa.

3. The Regent has taken a much more active part recently and has himself held several meetings of the Council of Ministers. He seems to have given up the idea of a change of Government and hopes to keep the present cabinet together until after the elections provided of course the situation does not get out of hand. The troops referred to in my telegram No.379 have been brought in. The morale of the police in Baghdad is said to have improved and a new(1) commander of the mobile police has been appointed. The Minister of Education has suppressed the students union in the higher training college. The arrival of the 3rd consignment of Australian wheat at Basra coupled with the prospective harvest coming in soon has caused the price of wheat to fall.

4. The Prime Minister despite very strong pressure, continues to refuse to take strong action, fearing that this might lead to

W.3985?. D1350. 55M. [illegible] 10/45.

bloodshed/...P.T.O.

bloodshed. None the less it can be said that the situation has not deteriorated during the last week. There seems to be a slight feeling in Baghdad that the situation is a little better.

(JFS/HA).

CCopy to:- S/1014/48.

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

تعليمات مصلحية

Received at ... وصلت مكتب

Date ... بتاريخ ٢٢

h. الساعة m. الدقيقة ١٢٢٠

وقت الوصول

قبله التسليم

خاتم التاريخ

(14.00)

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الاصلي Original No.	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة m	الساعة h.
	عمان	١٦٤١	٦١	٢٢	٢٠	١٢

قبل الظهر a. m.

بعد p. m.

To الى

المستر ارنست بيفن بواسطة الوزير البريطاني المفوض عمان

اجلاء العرب عن مواطنهم في فلسطين باتفاق الجيشين البريطاني وعصابات الهاغانا مظهر من مظاهر عداء بريطانيا للعرب تسليم المراكز الاستراتيجية لليهود وجعلهم في موقف المسيطر على القرى العربية العزلاء جريمة تسجل في تاريخكم الحافل انتم مسؤولون عن المجازر البشرية التي ارتكبت وهتك البشر ~~[illegible]~~ وسفك الدماء لذا نتمنى موقفكم المستنكر

From من

لجنة الدفاع عن فلسطين

(18A) S/1074/48

TELEGRAM FROM AMMAN DATED THE 23/4/1948.

TO MR ERNEST BEVIN THROUGH THE BRITISH MINISTER AMMAN.

TO EXPELL THE ARABS OUT OF THEIR HOMELAND IN PALESTINE AS A RESULT OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BRITISH ARMY AND THE HAGANA GANGS IS AN INDICATION TO BRITAIN'S ENMITY TOWARDS THE ARABS. TO HAND OVER TO THE JEWS STRATEGIC POSITIONS BY MEANS OF WHICH THEY WILL DOMINATE OVER UN-ARMED ARAB VILLAGES IS ANOTHER CRIME IN YOUR LONG HISTORY. RESPONSIBILITY RESTS ON YOU FOR IN HUMANE MASSACRES COMMITTED BY THE BEASTS OF HUMANITY THE BLOOD SHEDDERS. WE SHALL NEVER FORGET YOUR DISAPPROVED OF ATTITUDE.

(SGD) PALESTINE DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

Send a copy under 3rd person note to F.O.

24.4.48

COPY

TELEGRAM FROM AMMAN DATED THE 23/4/1948.

TO MR. ERNEST BEVIN THROUGH THE BRITISH MINISTER AMMAN.

TO EXPELL THE ARABS OUT OF THEIR HOMELAND IN PALESTINE AS A RESULT OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BRITISH ARMY AND THE HAGANA GANGS IS AN INDICATION TO BRITAIN'S ENMITY TOWARDS THE ARABS. TO HAND OVER TO THE JEWS STRATEGIC POSITIONS BY MEANS OF WHICH THEY WILL DOMINATE OVER UN-ARMED ARAB VILLAGES IS ANOTHER CRIME IN YOUR LONG HISTORY. RESPONSIBILITY RESTS ON YOU FOR INHUMANE MASSACRES COMMITTED BY THE BEASTS OF HUMANITY THE BLOOD SHEDDERS. WE SHALL NEVER FORGET YOUR DISAPPROVED OF ATTITUDE.

(SGD.) PALESTINE DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~-

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To* :—H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 25/4/48 (12.45) Received 25/4/48 (12.50)

No. 241 of 24th April, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Damascus telegram No.201 of April 24th.
Repeated for information Beirut, Amman, Cairo, Baghdad, Jedda,B.M.E.O. Washington and UKDEL New York.

The Syrian Minister called on Sir O.Sargent on April 24th on instructions from the Syrian Government to express their distress and anxiety at the events in Haifa. He said that His Majesty's Government had promised the Arab States(1) that law and order would be maintained until May 15th but events at(1) DEIR YASSIN and Haifa made it clear that this was no longer the case. Sir O. Sargent said he hoped we might still count(1) on the wisdom and patience of the Arab States and that they would not aggravate the situation by rash action. The Minister did not demur but said that these events made the prospect of a truce(1) increasingly difficult.

2. The Minister complained that the UKDEL in New York had said the trouble in Haifa had been started by the Arabs. Sir O. Sargent recognised the difficulty of attributing the blame to either side in a case like this but went some way towards persuading the Minister to agree that the affair of April 22nd was not a sudden attack by the(1) Jews but the culmination of various incidents in which the Arabs(1) had taken their share of attacking.

3. The Syrian Minister's attitude was moderate and he did not suggest any retaliatory action by his Government(1)

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. as my telegram 335~~24~~.

(HLM/HA).

W30657. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

HMM. 90

To 178

See 2

From :— H.M.Minister, DAMASCUS. To :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 24/4/48 (21.55) Received 24/4/48 (22.30)

No. 45 of 23rd April, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office 211.

Repeated to Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Jedda, Jerusalem, Memin and UKDEL New York.
My tel No 198. (142) (4th)

SECRET.

Russians fighting in Palestine.

The Minister of Defence this afternoon informed the Military Attache that one brigade of Russian troops is in action in the TULKARM area against FAWZI KAWAKJI. This information is supported by two dead Russians and intercepted messages.

He also said that Jewish forces in Haifa were led by a Russian with a name sounding like SEAVAY.

Foreign Office only. The Military Attache is reporting in the same sense to the War Office.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem and UKDEL as my telegrams 78 and 22 respectively.

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. as my telegram 85.

(HIM/HA).

W30857. D1350. 55M. (3 sorts). 10/45.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

H.y.A.

(21)

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

To { 1st Sec
Sec { 2nd Sec

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To :—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 26/4/48 (17.10) ~~Received~~

No. 252 of 26th April, 1948.

SECRET.

PALESTINE.

Following for Burrows.

I have seen in the press lately references to protests by Jewish representatives at Lake Success against the presence of a detachment of the Arab Legion which is said to have moved into the Old City of Jerusalem recently. This is no business of mine but I happen to know that the detachment in question does not consist of Arab Legion personnel but of ex Transjordan Frontier Force men under an ex officer of that force who were enlisted and equipped by the Arab League organisation at Damascus. The confusion of identity between the two forces appears to persist even after one of them has ceased to exist officially.

The information may be of use to you.

(ASK/HIM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— Memin, CAIRO. *To* :—H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 25/4/48 (12.30) Received 25/4/48 (12.50)

No. 57 of 24th April, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.137 of April 24th.
Repeated to Jerusalem, UKDEL New York, Washington(TW), Beirut, Jedda, Amman, Baghdad and Damascus.

CONFIDENTIAL.

~~Mk~~ My telegram No.133. PALESTINE.

I saw AZZAM Pasha this morning and left with him a letter containing a full summary of Jerusalem's telegram to Colonial Office 1094. He(1) disclaimed any suggestion that the British army is not impartial and pointed out that the message reported in Cairo telegram No.494 came from an unofficial Arab delegation and was probably written in a state of some excitment. He went on to say that while it was conceivable that(1) small parties of Arabs might have been attacking the Jews in Haifa it was beyond the boundaries of possibility that the Arabs in Haifa could have started an offensive. The situation in Haifa had in fact for months past been dominated by the Jews and he remained convinced that the Jewish attack a few days ago has (Sic) been previously designed. As regards a massacre his latest information from ~~the~~ Arabs just(1) returned from Haifa was that while the Jews had stopped mutilating women and children they were shooting them down in large numbers and pretending that this was(1) merely an unfortunate result of the battle.

2. While he in so way resented (though I do not think he believed) the High Commissioner's account of the facts he(1) did resent the fact that it had been given to Reuters. He described this as unfair and felt sure that it would be put to good use by Jewish propaganda.

3. He then went on to say that the Arabs had been taken by surprise by the British evacuation of Haifa town which they had been led to believe would be the last town to be evacuated. He asked

what/...2

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

what would be the position in Haifa port after May 15th. Was it our intention to evacuate the port before inform(? gp.omitted ? ing them)? On the other hand if we were intending to retain it for the evacuation of our forces should we in these circumstances permit its use by Jewish immigrants and at the same time resist any attempt by the Arabs whether by guns or aircraft to interrupt immigration ? He said that he would be very grateful for a reply to these questions.

4. He then reverted to the point recorded in paragraph 3 of Cairo telegram No.494 and asked if any reaction had been received from London to which I replied in the negative adding that I could not believe that H.M.G. could countenance the entry of regular Arab forces into Palestine so long as they hold the mandate. He said that he realised that we could not openly countenance such a thing but emphasised that the Arabs were in a(1) very difficult position. On the one side there was a fully mobilised Jewish force in the country whose activities we were completely unable to control. There was no counterbalancing Arab force inside the country. It could only come from outside. If we continued to take the line that we would resist incursions by force until May 15th the result would be that the Jewish forces would by that date have occupied all the strategical positions they required and the Arabs would find themselves at a grave disadvantage. He (asked me to -mut. gp.) (bring - mut.gp.) this to your urgent notice and expressed(1) the hope that if the Arab states found themselves forced by the military situation to send in, not indeed regular forces but so-called volunteers we would not resist them forcibly but would(1) in fact close a blind eye. I promised to pass his message to you(1) but offered no hope that you would be able to give an answer which would satisfy him I(1) also begged him in the meanwhile to(1) exercise moderation. Finally he said that North Palestine was the important part from the military point of view and I gathered that incursions from the South (see Jerusalem telegram No.65) were unlikely to be on any great scale.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem, UKDEL New York, Washington as my telegram No.35,26 and 29 respectively.

(JFS/HIM/HA).

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

(23)

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister,DAMASCUS. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

To pe { 1st 2nd

Despatched	26/4/48 (17.15)	Received	26/4/48 (19.00)
No.	51	of	26th April, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office 219.
Repeated to Memin, UKDEL New York, Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Jedda and Jerusalem.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Damascus students demonstrated on April 24th and April 25th and the town is still closed to-day.

2. On April 24th(TW) some 1500 demonstrators demanded from the President that Arab regular forces would enter Palestine immediately to protect the Arabs there. One student from HOM(1)S made a speech attacking the Government and the President personally for their failure to help Palestine. The same evening the student was attacked and shot near his home. Feeling against the Government is running high and all school(1)s and colleges(1) have closed. The Haifa situation has of course attracted a fair measure of feeling against ourselves.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem and UKDEL as my telegrams 86 and 28 respectively.

Cairo please pass to MEMIN as my telegram 91.

(PW/HA).

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

(24)

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— High Commissioner, JERUSALEM *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 26/4/48 (10.50) Received 26/4/48 (12.55)

No. 1186 of

IMMEDIATE. SECRET.

Addressed to His Majesty's Minister Amman 1186.

Repeated to Secretary of State 1120.

I have received the following personal telegram dated April 27th (SIC) from King Abdullah - Begins.

I wish to convey to Your Excellency the general feeling in Transjordan and beyond at the outrages committed in DEIR YASSIN, NASR AL DIN, TIBERIAS and (1) lastly Haifa. Public opinion here is in the state of extreme indignation and excitement. Only recourse to the path of right will calm. I beg to draw Your Excellency's attention and that of His Majesty's Government to the position of Jerusalem, NAZARETH and BETHLEHEM which are sacred to the Christians and Moslems alike. The trust should be handed over to us after the termination of the mandate. The Jews should not be allowed to do in the Holy Cities and in Jaffa what they did in ~~their~~ ~~ax~~ other places. My advice to the Jewish authorities is that they should (gp.undec. ? abstain from) committing such acts as would prejudice their desire to live in Palestine under the National home. Should they stop their assaults and agree to enter negotiations on the understanding that they will enjoy the right of citizens in the Palestine state and that they will have no(1) sovereignty which will prejudice the rights and dignity of the Arabs in their homeland, they would be working for their interest and serving the cause of peace in these countries. This telegram conveys the feeling of every Palestinian Arab in Palestine and Transjordan who has national dignity at heart. In conveying this to Your Excellency I trust that I will reap the fruits of my good intentions and of any endeavours to save the tortured people of the Holy Land who have been the victims of political designs which are calculated to increase the evil to beyond the boundaries of this Holy area. Ends.

2/...2

W30657. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

184

2. My immediately following telegram contains the text of the reply which I should be grateful if you would transmit to His Majesty. I am adopting this method of transmission and avail myself of your good offices in the matter because I am anxious the telegram should not suffer mutilation or delay which might occur were it sent en clair through the ordinary channels.

(JFS/HA).

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

(25)

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— High Commissioner, JERUSALEM *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 26/4/48 (10.50) Received 26/4/48 (15.15).

No. 1187 of

Addressed to Amman 1187. SECRET.

Repeated to Secretary of State 1121.

My immediately preceding telegram. — 24

Following is text of reply - begins.

I have to acknowledge receipt of Your Majesty's telegram of April 23rd(1). Your Majesty will(1) appreciate that what happens in Palestine after the termination of the Mandate is beyond my competence. I have therefore forwarded your message to His Majesty's Government. Meanwhile I wish to assure Your Majesty of my continued efforts in the cause of(1) peace in Palestine. I fully understand Your Majesty's concern for the Arabs of Palestine which I share - Ends.

(JS/HIM/HA).

The above message was broadcast twice yesterday by the P.B.S
M 27/4/48

W30057. D1350. 55M. 19/45.

(26)

BRITISH LEGATION,

AMMAN.

((S/1014/48)).

27th April, 1948.

To The King's Most Excellent Majesty,
Amman.

Your Majesty,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the reply of High Commissioner for Palestine to Your Majesty's message of the 23rd of April, 1948.

"I have to acknowledge receipt of Your Majesty's telegram of April 23rd. Your Majesty will appreciate that what happens in Palestine after the termination of the Mandate is beyond my competence. I have therefore forwarded your message to His Majesty's Government. Meanwhile I wish to assure Your Majesty of my continued efforts in the cause of peace in Palestine. I fully understand Your Majesty's concern for the Arabs of Palestine which I share".

I have the honour to be,
Your Majesty's sincere friend,

(Sgd.) A. S. KIRKBRIDE

المفوضية البريطانية

عمان

الرقم س/ ١٠١٤/ ٤٨

التاريخ ٢٧ نيسان ١٩٤٨ .

حضرة صاحب الجلالة الملك المعظم
عمان

يا صاحب الجلالة ،

اتشرف بأن انقل تاليا نص جواب المندوب السامي لفلسطين على رسالة جلالتكم تاريخ ٢٣ نيسان سنة ١٩٤٨

" لقد تسلمت برقية جلالتكم المؤرخة في ٢٣ نيسان . تقدرون جلالتكم ان ما يحدث في فلسطين بعد انتهاء الانتداب هو خارج عن صلاحيتي وبناء عليه فقد بعثت برسالتكم الى حكومة جلالته . وفي غضون ذلك اود ان اوكد لجلالتكم عن استمرار جهودي لمصلحة السلام في فلسطين . انني افهم جيدا مبلغ اهتمام جلالتكم بقضية عرب فلسطين وانا اشارككم ذلك . "

لي الشرف بأن اكون صديق جلالتكم المخلص

To Sec {1st Sec 2nd Sec

ASK/HA.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 26/4/48 (18.00) Received 26/4/48 (19.00)

No. 243 of 26th April, 1948.

IMPORTANT.
Following(1) received from Palestine telegram No.1130 of (April 25th) (2) (Begins)(2).

Addressed to Secretary of State, Washington(1), UKDEL, Damascus, B.M.E.O. Cairo (Please(1) pass to Ambassador and Commander-in-Chief).

Your telegram No.1640 repeating Damascus telegram to Foreign Office 213.

HAIFA.

The Syrian and Egyptian Consuls in Jerusalem called yesterday stating that the reports and stories of refugees from Haifa indicated that

a) Syrians and Egyptians were being kidnapped by the Jews.

b) The Jews were looting the shops in the DAMSCENE markets of Haifa.

c) Syrian and Egyptian nationals in Haifa were being prevented by the Jews from(1) reaching their consulates.

2. (1) (There were - Sic) told that everything possible has been and is being done for the welfare of all Arabs in Haifa: but that their representations would be brought to the notice of those responsible in Haifa. I have received no repeat no report of any such incident but have called for information. I cannot accept the claim(1) made by the Syrian Minister for Foreign Affairs referred to in the last sentence of the telegram under reference.

Please pass to Amman as No.(1) 1206.

(JFS/HLM/HA).

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

MESSAGE FORM

(28)

W/T Office Serial No. 5'<5'

Cipher Office Serial No.

(12.40) K Date 27/4

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman		1036
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
London	S/104/48	111

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN (stamp)

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
JCP ZZZ	Most Immediate

24927 Added to Amman
tel No 249 of 27th April ⊙
Repeated for information to Damascus
Jerusalem Baghdad and Beirut ⊙
This mornings press carries a
reuter report from Damascus
that transjordan has declared
war on ZIONISM and that
the transjordan army has
occupied JERICHO ⊙ Para 2 ⊙
The report adds that the armies
of SYRIA LEBANON TRANSJORDAN and
IRAQ have signed an agreement
at Amman which provides
according to damascus official
sources, for a three front
campaign to be opened in
Palestine before May 1st ⊙
Para 3 ⊙ I have to answer some
parliamentary questions about
the arab legion on the 28th
April ⊙ Please comment on
above reuter report by
most immediate tel today
⊙ Bevin

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials
27/4/48	

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Codex

Clearx

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN. *To:*— F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 27.4.48 (17.25) Receivedx

No. 255 of 27th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.255 of 27th April repeated for information to Baghdad No.37

Beirut	No.24
Cairo	No.41
Damascus	No.26
Jedda	No.17
B.M.E.O.	No.31
Jerusalem	No.32

CONFIDENTIAL.

PALESTINE.

Your telegram No.249 (of 27.4.48).

1. Except in so far as Transjordan together with other Arab states has always expressed opposition to Zionism no declaration of war on Zionism has been made. The Arab Legion detachment placed at Jericho to keep the Jerusalem road open is under the orders of the General Officer Commanding as are all other Arab Legion detachments now in Palestine.

2. No agreement was signed at Amman during the recent meeting here of Arab leaders and whether anything concrete emerges from that meeting depends on discussions now taking place in Cairo. The only document resulting from the meeting was the King's letter to Azzam reported in my telegram No.249 (of 25th April, 1948).

3. I can detect no present intention of Arab armies to move before the end of the mandate. On the contrary the Arab leaders are tending to quote the existence of the mandate as an excuse for their failure to

act/

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

act immediately and so deflect part of the public odium on ourselves.

4. In general the present idea of the Syrian leaders to endeavour to restore morale by focussing public attention on the recent meeting here and on the strength and readiness of the Arab Legion. It distracts attention from their own shortcomings and will embarrass King Abdullah if he fails to live up to the extravagent hopes which they are creating.

9. I have no news of the outcome of the talks in Cairo but the Regent is due back here tomorrow. The Prime Ministers of Syria and the Lebanon are said to be going to fly to Riyadh.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 32.

(ASK/LeM/MH)

MESSAGE FORM

(30)

W/T Office Serial No. 538

Cipher Office Serial No.

B.

Date 27/4

To: Amman

From: London

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN (stamp)

TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
	1000
Originators No.	Number of Groups
	17

Special Instructions: ICP 2

Indication of Priority: Important

(15)

INTEL 17026 Mytel No 167
intel subpara 1 O For
quote optimism unquote
read quote opinion unquote
O Bevin.

Amended [illegible]

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T [redacted]erial No. 552

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date 27/4

(05.30)

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman.	28	2110
From:	**Originators No.**	**Number of Groups**
London	S/1014/48/0	46

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

25427 Added to DAMASCUS tel No 205 of 27th April. repeated for information to Amman Jerusalem Baghdad Beirut, Cairo, BMEO, Cairo, Jedda, W'ton, and UKDEL NEW YORK ⊙ Amman telegram No ~~255~~ to foreign office repeated to you ⊙ Can you trace origin of this rumour and supply further comments ⊙ Bevin

(29)

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.** (32)

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, JEDDAH. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 25/4/48 (13.45) Received 26/4/48 (15.15)

No. 32 of 25th April, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.168 of April 25th.
Repeated for information Amman, Washington, UKDEL New York, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jerusalem and B.M.E.O.

SECRET.

Your telegram No.186 ~~or 32~~ - Both one change): Ibn Saud(1) and Transjordan.

1. Intervention by regular Saudi forces such as they are is I think unlikely and if made could easily be resisted. The King knows that his army is incapable of effective field operations. Tribal raiding designed to make King Abdullah(1) nervous about his rear is(1) the most he could do. As however the Iraqi Minister here is(1) said to have(1) reported to his Government that the Saudi irregulars ostensibly for Palestine are really for(1) attacking Aqaba and(1) Ma'an it may be that the Iraqi Government takes an exaggerated view of the risks involved.

2. Ibn Saud's most probable action(1), if any, would I think be a war of nerves or raiding by small parties.

3. Neverhteless from the political angle I think this is unlikely owing to Azzam's acceptance of the Arab Legion's entry. The King is most sensitive to criticism in the Press and would not like being accused of opening a second front for the Jews.

4. On the other hand (gp.undec.) said that(1) Ibn Saud regards H.M.G. as sympathetic(1) with if not the sponsors(1) of the entry(1) of Abdullah's (troops - mut.gp.) into Palestine but his fears of a Greater Syria would be awakened and he might well give(1) further encouragement to(1) the anti-HASHEMITE movements in Iraq and release RASHID Ali.

5. The latest sidelight on the King's(1) mind which has reached me is a remark by PHILBY, who is sometimes right, that(1) Ibn Saud's great fear is that H.M.G. will not repetition NOT leave Palestine(1) on May 15th.

(HLM/JFS/HA).

W30657. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM.

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. To :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 27/4/48 (11.55) Received 27/4/48 (12.25)

No. 248 of 26th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE. SECRET.

Following received from Palestine telegram No.1108 of April 23rd. Repeated Washington, UKDEL New York, Aden, Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Aleppo, Damascus, B.M.E.O., Jedda and Cairo - Begins.

My telegram No.1094 - Haifa.

My telegram No.1104 contains all the information available(1) to date. The situation in Haifa town is reported this morning as very much quieter and normal life is being resumed(1). The general (gp.undec.) reports that some military store trains still being operated by the military: Haifa worshops still operating: and QISHON workshops now occupied by the Army in an orderly fashion and without damage following the seizure by the HAGANAH.

2. With reference to your telegram No.1584 (Damascus to Foreign Office No.203) you will have seen from my telegram No.1094 that it was quite wrong for a Syrian President to assume that the British were doing nothing. I trust that an opportunity may be found to make this clear to him and also to point out the Arab states themselves and Syria in particular can hardly escape responsibility for the situation which has now arisen and of which they have been so frequently forewarned. The security forces have done and are doing their best to act absolutely fairly and impartially but it must always be remembered that the presence(1) in Palestine of large(1) bodies of well armed foreign "troops" creates conditions in which preventive action by the security force is in many cases(1) impossible while action to restore(1) the situation is made vastly more(1) difficult and the likelihood of CLASH-Sic is at once increased. And if these foreign troops having entered Palestine with the connivance,but without official recognition, of their own Government and against the protest (1)s which I have so often asked(1) should be strongly made,finding themselves in difficulties, it seems particularly naive to argue that their parent states(1) could not in comming(1) to their rescue by military intervention be accused of aggression.

3/...2

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

3. As this was being drafted a (telegram)(2) was received from the District(1) Commissioner of Haifa that attempts to secure the truce have failed and (gp.undec. ? Arabs) have decided to evacuate the town.

(HLM/JFS/HA).

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

34

Cypher (M/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S. of S. F.O. LONDON *To* :— H.M. MINISTER, AMMAN.

Despatched 27.4.48 (19.00) Received 27.4.48 (19.01)

No. 253 of 27th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Following received from Palestine. Begins.

SECRET.

Addressed to Amman No. 1246.

The Jewish Agency claims to have information from reliable source that the Transjordan Government has ordered (1) "total mobilization" and intend (1) to send Transjordan regular forces into Palestine at once". This is said to have been decided at the meeting of the Transjordan Parliament yesterday. I should be grateful for your (1) early comments on these statements.

Am at present not repeat not (1) in telegraphic communication with Amman.

----

gu 36

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.** 35

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, CAIRO *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 27/4/48 (15.15) Received 27/4/48 (16.00)

No. 40 of 26th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
SECRET. LIGHT. (? Preamble omitted.)

My telegram No.514 of April 27th: Palestine.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs called to see me early yesterday evening and I was able to speak with him after all and urge moderation. While underlining the difficult situation of the Arab Governments in the face of popular clamour His Excellency said that Egypt did not intend to and would not, send regular forces(1) into Palestine. He hinted that she did not feel in all the circumstances able to do so painful and delicate though this was for her. He said however that it really was not possible to prevent volunteers. As far as I could gather he expected Iraq to be forced by(1) internal pressure to send regular troops. He said that it seemed to the Arab Governments that Great Britain was now thinking more of leaving Palestine than of the maintenance of order. I said that the maintenance of order could not mean in Palestine any more than anywhere else that disturbance of order could be prevented wherever and whenever it might occur since troops could not be everywhere at once. It would be wrong therefore to cite all the(1) incidents as failure of the British to carry out their responsibility and to claim therefore(1) that the action by the Arab Governments from outside was justified(1). As for his other point we had at the very outset emphasized that at a time when our intention to withdraw was universally praised by the Arabs the Arab States should avoid action which by producing or augmenting disorder might intefere with the order of withdrawal of our troops.

2. KHASABA Pasha said that large number of Arab refugees were entering Egypt. These Egypt would shelter and maintain until the situation was restored suggesting that it was the least, as it was also pretty nearly the most that she could do.

3/...2

W3065. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

- 2 -

Clear

From :—

To :—

Despatched

Received

No. of

3. The Press reports that the Political Committee of the Arab League was in session from 5 to 930 last evening. It is therefore possible that the Egyptian intentions as described above may have undergone some modification since I saw Khasaba. This morning's bulletin reports the movement of Egyptian mechanised forces towards the Palestine frontier but I have so far had no confirmatory information about that.

(JS/HIM/HA).

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To:—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 28/4/48 (11.05) ~~Received~~

No. 256 of 28th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.256 of 28th April.

Repeated to Jerusalem No. 33

SECRET.

PALESTINE.

Jerusalem telegram No.1246 to me.

My telegram No.255 (of 27th April, 1948) gives the present position.

There is a great deal of loose talk going on here mainly for morale mounting purposes. I shall not fail to report any concrete developments.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No.33.

(ASK/HLM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—*H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 27/4/48 (23.59) Received 28/4/48 (05.50)

No. 257 of 27th April, 1948.

(43)

MOST IMMEDIATE.
SECRET.

Addressed to Cairo telegram No.549 of April 27th and to Damascus, Beirut, Amman, Jedda and Baghdad.

Repeated for the information of B.M.E.O. ("O" cyphered twice) Washington, UKDEL New York and Jerusalem.

See 44

My telegram No.4609 to Washington.

You should immediately make representations accordingly to the Government to which(1) you are accredited.

(HIM/HA).

W30857. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

(38)

~~Cypher~~

~~Code~~

Clear

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To :—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 28/4/48 (11.00) ~~Received~~

No. 257 of 28th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

PALESTINE.

Your telegram No.257 (of 27th April, 1948).

I have not received your telegram No.4609 to Washington.

(ASK/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO. S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

39

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To :—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 28/4/48 (11.55) ~~Received~~

No. 258 of 28th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.258 of 28th April.

Repeated for information to	UKDEL New York	No. 15
	Baghdad	No. 38
	Jerusalem	No. 34
	Beirut	No. 63 SAVING.
	Cairo	No. 62 SAVING.
	Damascus	No. 57 SAVING.
	Jeddah	No. 58 SAVING.
SECRET.	B.M.E.O.	No. 62 SAVING.

PALESTINE.

1. News has arrived here that a column of mechanized Iraqi troops leave their base to-day for Transjordan. They are to be encamped near Zerka on arrival.

2. Azzam arrives here this afternoon and the Regent's ~~xxgxxk~~ return has been postponed until to-morrow.

3. Jewish forces occupied Jisr Majami Police Post to-day and opened fire on Arab Legion sentries on the Transjordan end of the bridge killing one legionary. The fire is being returned from Transjordan territory.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos.15 and 34 respectively.

(ASK/HIM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T) FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

8. 40

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 27/4/48 (12.50) Received 27/4/48 (16.00)

No. 244 of 26th April, 1948.

SECRET.

Following received from Palestine telegram No.1127A of April 25th-Begi
Repeated to(1) Washington, UKDEL, Damascus, Beirut, Aden, Al\eppo 1196, Jedda, B.M.E.O., Amman 1197 and Baghdad.

(Secretary of State please pass to Aden, Al\eppo and Amman).

My telegram No.1108. — HAIFA. 33

The situation in Haifa town now quiet. The night of April 23rd - April 24th there was practically no shooting in the town. Small skirmish occurred in a village outside Haifa: British troops intervened and(1) restored order.

2. The Arabs especially from the poorer quarters continue to evacuate but the evacuation has now almost ceased. Estimate some 5,000 persons in all evacuated.

3. Information regarding the truce proceedings is not complete. It appears however that when the Arab leaders announced to the truce Committee their decision to evacuate all repeat all Arabs from Haifa the matter was referred for arrangement to a sub-committee composed of Jews and Arabs only under the chairmanship of the mayor. At this (1) sub-committee the Jews fearing for the economic future of the town pressed the Arabs to reconsider their decision of complete evacuation; and the matter is still under discussion.

4. The British authorities at Haifa have formed the impression that total evacuation is being urged on the Commander of the Arabs from higher Arab quarters and that the TOWNFOLK themselves are against it. Further, that if the present reasonably peaceful atmosphere can be maintained for a day or so with the restoration of confidence consequent on the free passage of security forces patrols (1) etc.,there is every hope that ~~the~~ total Arab evacuation will be avoided and the situation brought back to normal.

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

(HIM/JFS/HA).

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM.

8 (41)

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To* :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 27/4/48 (16.15) Received ?

No. 246 of 26th April, 1948.

Addressed to Beirut, Amman, Baghdad, Cairo and Washington.

Following received from High Commissioner Palestine telegram No.1107 of April 23rd. - Begins.

SECRET.

170

Your telegram No.1598 (Damascus to Foreign Office No.205).Haifa.

The Syrian Consul General in Jerusalem asked on the afternoon of April 22nd that the General Officer Commanding should be instructed to direct the military commander at Haifa to provide military escorts to take all Syrian nationals (who he said amount to some 100) in Haifa, to the Syrian Consulate headquarters(1) for safety. He was told that while it was not possible to instruct the local commander to give the Syrians preferential treatment, there was no doubt that the British Authorities on the spot were giving the maximum assistance which ~~they~~ their resources permitted to all repeat all distressed Arabs in Haifa, and that the evacuation of these persons to places of safety had started and was being assisted with army landing craft. He said he had not known this. He was further informed that his request would at once be brought to the notice of those concerned. His statement that his request for safe escort had been rejected is somewhat misleading.

(PW/HLM/HA).

W30657. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM.

(42)

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (12.10) Received 28/4/48 (12.30)

No. 258 of 27th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Following received from Palestine(1) telegram No.1131 of April 25th - Begins.
SECRET.

Addressed to UKDEL telegram 1204.
Repeated to Washington(1), Secretary of State.

There are increasing indications that the Jews are considering large scale attacks in Jerusalem with a view to forestalling Arab action by forming bodies from outside Palestine and with the object of getting control of the city. It is important that all possible pressure should be exerted on the Jews at Lake Success to desist from such action at a time when the truce proposals are being discussed with them. It would of course not be politic to give any publicity to the above information since it might precipitate Arab action. I am seeing BEN GURION to-day.

2. In regard to the(commission-mut.gp.) appointed by the Security Council it is not clear who are to be members repeat members of the commission. The Consulates concerned here have had no instructions - Ends.

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. as my telegram No.34727.

(HIM/JFS/HA).

W30057. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

43

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To* :— H.M.Minister, ~~AMMAN~~.

Despatched 28/4/48 (11.28) Received 28/4/48 (11.30)

No. 256 of 27th April, 1948.

See 44

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Washington telegram No.4609 of April 27th.
Repeated for information UKDEL(1) New York, Cairo, B.M.E.O.,Damascus, Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Baghdad and Jerusalem(1)
SECRET.

Jerusalem telegram No.1131.

In view of the rapid deterioration in the situation in Palestine the suggestion has been put before the Cabinet that we should(1) consider laying down the mandate and withdrawing from Jerusalem before May 15th. We are however fully conscious of the important although belated work now going on at Lake Success and more particularly in the political,truce and trusteeship committees referred to in New York's telegram No.1277. We are most anxious not to embarrass the United Nations Organisation or its committees in any way but we would urge that the work of these committees should be concluded and action decided upon as rapidly as possible(1).

2. Information in the Jerusalem telegram under reference which we have no reason to doubt, suggests that a very serious situation may shortly arise in regard to(1) Jerusalem. If Jewish action should develop on these lines the result might well be complete or partial destruction of Jerusalem including the Holy Places. Repercussions would be world wide and not confined only to the Arab states. You should therefore see Mr.Marshall at once and impress upon him the very grave possibilities in this situation and say that we rely upon the United States Government to exercise all their influence with the Jews to prevent any Jewish attack in Jerusalem. We are(1) meanwhile using our influence with the Arabs to exercise restraint but in this case the Jews seem to be much the greater danger.

3. You should also(1) know, that the Transjordan Minister saw me to-day and brought a(1) message from King Abdullah urging that British troops should remain in occupation and protection of Jerusalem, NAZARETH and BETHLEHEM until May 15th. P.T.O.

W30087. D1350. 55M. 10/45.

Cairo please pass B.M.E.O. as my telegram 34527.

(HIM/JFS/HA).

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

44

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To:—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 28/4/48 (18.56) ~~Received~~

No. 259 of 28th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.259 of 28th April.
Repeated for information to

UKDEL New York	No. 16
Washington	No. 12
Baghdad	No. 39
Beirut	No. 25
Cairo	No. 42
Damascus	No. 27
Jeddah	No. 18
Jerusalem	No. 35
B.M.E.O.	No. 32

43

SECRET.

PALESTINE.

Your telegram No.4609 (of 27th April, 1948) to Washington.

1. I made the representations to King Abdullah and to the Prime Minister this afternoon. They replied that the Jews were on the offensive everywhere and that offensives usually brought counter-offensives.

2. My own view is that if the Jews continue to attack Arab positions in Palestine some action by the Arabs outside Palestine will be almost inevitable.

39

I had considerable trouble in preventing action in Palestine at Jisr Majami following the death of an Arab Legionary which was reported in my telegram No.258 (of 28th April, 1948).

As it was the Arab Legion shelled the Jewish positions from Transjordan territory and this process will be repeated if the Jews fire on the Arab Legion positions ~~xxxxxxx~~ again.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York, Washington and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos.16, 12 and 35 respectively.

(ASK/HLM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Offi[illegible]rial No. ....

Cipher [illegible]e Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

4

British security forces now evacu-ating palestine. and that members of the ARAB legion are actively assisting the Arab Bands who are in-vading palestine at present from outside territories, and what steps he proposes to take the matter. MR SHINWELL all military equipment supplied to the arab legion. Has been supplied under the terms of contract made last year in accordance with the anglo - transjordan treaty of alliance there is no evidence that members of the Arab Legion are assisting arab bands. who have entered palestine from outside territories. The units of the ARAB LEGION which remain in Palestine are operating under orders of the general officers commanding palestine in an internal security role Bevin

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering | Cipher Clerks Initials

(8)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T [redacted]ce Serial No.

Cipher [redacted]ce Serial No.

Date

To :	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From :	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

3

see that neither ammunition nor other possibility of attacks is given to them. MR SHINWELL We have no information that members of the arab legion are making attacks on Jews. MR AUSTIN as the treaty with transjordan was drawn up on the basis of securing and maintaining peace in the MIDDLE EAST how does my right hon friend reconcile that fact with the present situation. MR SHINWELL. That is a question for my right hon friend the secretary of state for foreign affairs. M.P. Following is text of parliamentary question and written answer 27 th april MR JANNER asked the secretary of state for war whether he is aware that units of the Arab Legion while in Palestine have been provided with plus arms and military material left to them by the

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. .... Date ....

To :	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From :	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

2

this is primarily a matter for my right hon. friend the secretary of state for foreign affairs. MR COCKS was there any stipulation that this equipment should not be used against ZIONISTS and in view of the fact that king Abdullah a has not invaded Palestine will equivalent equipment be transferred to the JEWS to ensure equal treatment between the two sides. Mr SHINWELL on that question which appears to have been derived from press reports i would beg my hon friends to to suspend judgement. Mr Tanner Could my right hon friend say whether he is taking any steps to ascertain how many of these members of the ARAB legion are participating in attacks upon Palestine people and whether in view of the fact that they are obviously supplied with ammunition and officered by British officers he will

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 572

Cipher Office Serial No. ...... Date 29/4

8/12

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
PRO H (06.30)		0200
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
PRO London	29 S/1014/ME	528

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
	Important

26228 Addressed AMMAN tel 262
of april 28th repeated to BMEO BEIRUT
damascus, cairo, Jedda, Bagdad,
Washington UKDEL New York following
is text of parlimentary questions and
answers 27th april. MR COCKS
asked the secretary of state for
war whether he will give details of
the military equipment and
material recently passed over to
the arab legion and whether
in view of the declaration of
KING ABDULLAH that the legion will
take action against the jews
after 15th may he will ask
for the return of such military
equipment and material. MR SHINWELL
such issues which have been made
in accordance with treaty obligations
have been from stocks held in
the MIDDLE EAST, Precise details
of recent issues under the
approved programme are not
available in this country. Asregards
the second part of the question

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(48)

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, BEIRUT. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (23.10) Received 28/4/48 (06.30)

No. 40 of 28th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office 309 of April 28th.
Repeated for information Washington, Ukdel New York(1), Jerusalem, B.M.E.O. Cairo, Jedda, Baghdad, Amman and Damascus.

PALESTINE.

The Lebanese Prime Minister who returned to Beirut April 27th informed a member of my staff to-day that the Arab Governments had virtually decided not repeat norto wait for May 15th before sending(1) their regular armies into Palestine. The Lebanon would play its part on a par with the other Arab Governments. The Lebanese Prime Minister said that any Arab Government which attempted to oppose the despatch of troops would be overthrown. Public opinion is too inflamed by recent developments.

Foreign Office please pass to Washington and UKDEL New York as my telegrams 14 and 15.

Cairo please pass MEMIN as my telegram 89.

(HIM/JFS/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T) FILE NO.S/1014/48, **TELEGRAM.** (50)

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, BAGHDAD. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (21.43) Received 29/4/48 (06.30)

No. 59 of 28th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.458 of April 28th.
Repeated for information B.M.E.O. Cairo, Amman, Damascus, Beirut, Jedda, Washington, UKDEL New York and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No.549 ~~to~~ Cairo.

Palestine.

I made the representations to the Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning. He was non-committal as he usually(1) is and spoke of Haifa, but on this occasion his attitude was largely due to ignorance of what has been(1) going on at Amman(1). The Iraqi Government seems to have little direct information about the meeting and there is considerable feeling amongst them against the Regent.

2. I asked the Minister for Foreign Affairs about the strong rumours that(1) Iraq Forces and(1) aircraft had started for Transjord He replied that none had left yet but that part of the mechanised force would start for Transjordan to-morrow (April 29th). No aircraft were being sent at present. In response to my pressure he(1) said that, as far as could be foreseen, Iraqi forces would not enter into Palestine before(1) May 15th. I reported the Regent's assurance on this point in my telegram No.444.

3. The Iraqi Government has issued the statement to the effect that Iraq must take her place with the other Arab(1) states in their firm(1) stand(1) and that the effect of urgent measures which were(1) being taken in concert would soon be felt. Meanwhile the Government appealed for peace and quiet and requested the ~~pegile~~ people to concentrate on volunteering and contributing to the cause.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York and Washington both immediate as my telegram Nos.10 and 25 respectively.

(JS/HIM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, CAIRO. To :- H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (22.03) Received 29/4/48 (06.30)

No. 41 of 28th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.522 of April 28th.
Repeated for information Damascus, Beirut, Baghdad, Amman, Jedda, Jerusalem, Washington and UKDEL New York.

Your telegram No.549. PALESTINE.

I spoke as instructed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning. His Excellency said that he would do all he possibly could in the sense desired. He felt certain that the Arabs would not initiate any attack on Jerusalem(1) which was as dear to them as to anyone else. He hoped that the British forces would do anything they could to prevent any(1) attack by the Jews.

2. In general the Minister for Foreign Affairs said that he was doing his best in the interest of moderation. In reply(1) to my question he said that there had been(1) no change in the attitude of the Egyptian Government about the despatch if any of regular troops to Palestine. They remained unwilling to do so and were firm on the point. See my telegram No.517.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York and Washington as my telegrams Nos.7 and 16 respectively.

(JFS/HHM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

FILE NO.S/1014/48. ✓**TELEGRAM.** HMM.

45

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

To PO / 1st Sec / 2nd Sec

From :— H.M.Ambassador, JEDDAH. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 23/4/48 (15.00) Received 28/4/48 (11.20)

No. 31 of 23rd April, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.1(1)66 of April 23rd. Repeated for information to Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jerusalem, B.M.E.O. and Saving Washington, UKDEL New Yor.

RESTRICTED. (1)

My telegram No.136. — (119) 4th

I have received a(1) reply from YUSUF (YA)(2)SIN to my letter to Faisal. He states that because of the recent Jewish atrocities in Palestine and the apparent inability of the British security forces to protect the Arabs no Arab leader(1) would dare to urge the cessation of volunteering for Palestine which alone prevents the extermination(1) of the Arabs of that country.

2. He however suggests that the Arab (States)(2) are prepared (remainder of telegram undec - about 25 gps.)

This telegram was delayed in transmission.

(JS/HIM/HA).

(W/T) FILE NO. S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

H.M.M.

46

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, DAMASCUS. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (17.10) Received 28/4/48 (17.20)

No. 52 of 28th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office 224.
Repeated to Amman, Jerusalem, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Jedda, B.M.E.O.
CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No.205. 31

Reuter's Damascus correspondent received (by telephone on the evening(1) of April 26th) from an agent employed (b*t him - Sic? by him) in Amman(TW) the story to the effect that King Abdullah at a press conference earlier the same evening had stated that he had declared war against the Zionists. The message continued by(1) stating that Transjordan forces were in occupation of JERICHO.

2. The second part of the story may have resulted from(1) the presence in Jericho of units of the Arab Legion under British Command as explained in an official statement the Palestine Government Broadcast yesterday.

Foreign Office please pass immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram 80.

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. as my telegram 95.

(JS/HLM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

29

(W/T) FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM. (47)

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 27/4/48 (17.00) Received ?

No. 247 of 26th April, 1948.

Addressed to delegation New York telegram No.1706 of April 26th, Washington, Damascus, Beirut, Amman, Baghdad, Jedda, Cairo and B.M.E.O. Cairo.

Following received from Haifa telegram unnumbered of April 25th. Begins.

SECRET.

From MARRI(1)OT.

Your telegram of April 23rd most immediate. Secret.

1.(1) Syrian and Egyptian Consuls content with the situation and have so informed their Governments. Both leaving within two or three days on instructions. They have asked the United States consul take charge of their countries' interests.

2. The Lebanese Consul went home some days ago ostensibly becuase of daughter's illness. His clerk expresses contentment with the situation but says has no means of communication(1) with his Government.(1)

3. The Consul not aware of any casualties among their colony here but says the casualties to the foreign(1) Arabs very few. All express gratitude for the co-operation of the military authorities.

4. Last night again quiet and General STOCKWELL says Haifa more peaceful now than at any time for the last 3 months. Whilst still an exodus of Arabs from Haifa Syrian, Egyptian, Lebanese colonies (gp.undec.) ~~ix~~ to leave, some Arab residents who fled in the first panic are returning and should our(1) present peaceful state last more confident that will be restored. The Jewish leader with considerable influence over Arab labour stated that by the beginning of May there will be more labour available here than there has been for several months.

5/...2

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

5. During negotiations for the truce one of the Arab leaders remarked that they had lost the first rounds but that there were more to (? gp. omitted). This and similar remarks I have heard lead me to believe there will be a major clash here as soon as the Arabs can mobilize the necessary force after the termination of the Mandate. It is to be regretted that the Arabs now bitter against us for not having intervened here when the Jews were winning and it is to be observed the Jews complained we did not intervene at SAFAD when they were losing. The fact(1) is that our forces have been so run down that we cannot maintain law and order in addition to ensuring our safe evacuation. The latter can be effected and casualties to our troops kept to a minimum. The former demands overwhelming strength if the number of our casualties is to be restricted. They would inevitably be high and our use of artillery would obviously result in heavy civilian casualties and damage which is already extensive as a result of the use by Jews and Arabs of mortars and bombs.

(FW/HLM/JFS/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

RESTRICTED

BRITISH LEGATION,

AMMAN.

(S/1014/48).

29th April, 1948.

Dear Burrows,

Please refer to my telegram No.255 of 27th April, 1948, about the alleged declaration of war by Transjordan on Zionism.

I enclose herewith the translation of a statement made by King Abdullah to the press about that time which may have given rise to the report in question.

I am having a very trying time in keeping His Majesty from kicking over the traces altogether. He spends his days, and some of his nights, in alternate moods of lucidity and something approaching a complete nervous breakdown. I wish he would stop making these statements to the press but some outlet for his fury seems to be essential.

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) A. S. KIRKBRIDE

B.AB.Burrows Esq.,
The Eastern Department,
The Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

ASK/HA.

COPY OF TRANSLATION.

Amman : His Majesty King Abdullah King of the Transjordan Hashimite Kingdom has graciously made a high Royal statement in reply to questions put forward to His Majesty by correspondents of Arab and foreign press in regard to the present situation in Palestine. His Majesty said :-

Before resorting to military measures, we have endeavoured by all means to establish peace but our endeavours went in vain despite the humble efforts made by us and now we have no other alternative but to solve the problem by means of fighting.

Instead of awaiting till the 15th of May next the Jews have seized the opportunity of attacking peaceful Arabs at Deir Yassin, Tiberias, Haifa and other places which fact alone is sufficient reason to compel Arab states to send their troops to Palestine.

His Majesty went on saying: Personally I believe that there is no single Arab Government which can resist the desires of the Arab peoples that their respective armies by sent to Palestine.

The announcement of 3,000 students that they will go on hunger strike till such time when the Arab States shall have sent their regular armies to Palestine should be taken into consideration.

Transjordan, said His Majesty, continuing His Royal statement, is not a member at the United Nations Organisation and I am concerned neither in the Organisation nor in commenting on what is being said and done therein.

His Majesty continued: There is nothing in Palestine that can be called war, what is going on there is Jewish tyranny against the Arabs.

As already stated, I have advised the Jews to remain peaceful and enjoy the rights of citizents in the Arab State and I am still awaiting their reply.

I am an Arab King, at the head of an Arab State whose army is Arab and I shall do whatever shall seem right to me. The Arabs expected justice and fairdealing from United Nations Organisation but their hopes were frustrated.

His Majesty said: I place myself at the disposal of the Palestinians and it is a pleasure and an honour that I should do something to rescue them from their calamity.

In reply to a question regarding the Arab Legion His Majesty said: The Arab Legion can sacrifice half its men for Palestine.

If decided upon, truce talks should be based on the condition that matters should return to the status and in Tiberias, Haifa and other places and should include a provision that the Jews will give up aspirations of sovereignty and be satisfied with the rights of citizens in the Arab States.

His Majesty asked correspondents to convey his compliments to all civilised nations with the request to cease their pressure against Arab peoples. His Majesty wished civilised nations to be informed that Arab peoples are capable of reciprocating any offence directed against their honour and dignity.

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.** HMM

(53)

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

To pa { 1st fo. 2nd fo.

From :— High Commissioner, JERUSALEM *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (22.30) Received 29/4/48 (11.40)

No. 1269 of

MOST IMMEDIATE.
Addressed to Secretary of State No.1180.
Repeated to Washington 307, (Please pass to UKDEL as 1266) Memin 71, (Please pass to Ambassador as 82) Damascus 1267, Beirut 1260, Amman 1269, Jedda 39 and Baghdad 47.

Reference your 1698, Foreign Office to Washington No.4000+?

The Jews have(1) launched heavy attacks on Jaffa(1) today. Any success here will have (a)(2) greater effect on the Arab states than Haifa. I asked the Army and Air Force to take full action against the Jews and the attack has gone in this afternoon the result as yet unknown. I would however suggest that in any approach made to the(1) Americans with the object of restraining the Jews the stopping of attacks on Jaffa should be stressed as strongly as the prevention of attacks in(1) Jerusalem(1). I have had it conveyed(1) to the Agency that their request that we should restrain the Arab states are extremely inconsistent with the attacks by the Jews on a wholly Arab town which can only inflame the states still further.

(JFS/HTM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO. S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S. OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (12.50) Received 28/4/48 (12.55)

No. 252 of 27th April, 1948.

TOP SECRET.

Following received from Palestine telegram No.1148 April 26th. Begins. Repeated to Damascus, Beirut, Amman telegram No.1227 Jedda, Aden, Aleppo(1) telegram No.1229, Baghdad, B.M.E.O., Cairo (please pass to Ambassador and(1) the Commander-in-Chief) Washington (please pass to Ukdel.

You should know that the collapsing Arab morale in Palestine is in some measure due to the increasing tendency of those who should be leading them to leave the country. For instance in Jaffa the Major went on four days leave twelve days ago and has not returned and half the national committee has left(1). In Haifa the Arab members of the municipality left some time ago; the two leaders of the Arab ~~xxxx~~ liberation army left actually during the recent battle. Now the chief Arab magistrate has left. In all parts of the country the Effendi class has been evacuating in large numbers over a considerable period and the tempo is increasing.

(PW/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO. S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, DAMASCUS. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 29/4/48 (04.25) Received 29/4/48 (06.30)

No. 53 of 28th April, 1948.

IMPORTANT.
Addressed to Foreign Office 225.
Repeated to Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Jedda, Jerusalem, B.M.E.O., Ukdel New York and Washington.

Your telegram No.549 to Cairo.

SECRET. LIGHT.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs who returned from Cairo last night made an appointment to see me this evening. He was however detained at the secret session of Parliament and the Minister of the Interior who has been recently acting(1) in his absence received me.

2. I reminded the Minister of the Interior of the singular appeals for calmness and restraint which I had made to him and the President last week and I said that I had now come to make yet another. Last week I had spoken in a general way and had not mentioned any part of Palestine. Today when renewing the appeal I wanted him to take note of the fact that the United(1) Nations had not yet obtained(1) agreement regarding Jerusalem and the Holy places(1) and I felt that this fact should be(1) borne in mind in the deliberations of the Syrian Government so that nothing which might happen should have repercussions on those places. I also drew his attention to the bitter feeling which would be arows(1)ed if anything were to happen to them. The Minister spoke of the reverence in which the places are held by Islam and said that they were already being defiled by the Jews. But he admitted to seeing my point and said that he would inform ~~hi~~ his colleagues in the Government(1) accordingly.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem immediate as my telegram 90 and important to UKDEL and Washington as my telegrams 29 and 12 respectively.

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. as my telegram 96.

(JES/HIM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, BAGHDAD. *To* :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (17.40) Received 28/4/48 (17.45)

No. 56 of 27th April, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.449 of April 27th. Repeated for information B.M.E.O., Amman, and Saving to Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jedda, Jerusalem(1), Washington and UKDEL New York.

Your telegram No.197 to Damascus.

Minister for Foreign Affairs was not available on Saturday morning. I therefore sent the oriental counsellor to see the head of the (gp.undec.) section in the absence of the Director General. The Oriental counsellor had Jerusalem telegrams Nos. 1094 and 1104 and spoke on the lines of your telegram under reference. The Official took notes and undertook to inform his Minister the following(1) day.

2. In the absence from Iraq of the Regent and the Ministers of Defence and Finance I fear that any representations here to the Iraqi Government will not affect the events in Palestine.

(PW/JFS/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(57)

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 570

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date 29/4

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Pro A		0040
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
Pro London	S/1024(4)	1493

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN 29 (stamp)

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
	Immediate

26/28 Page 1 Addressed AMMAN telegram no 261 of april 28th repeated for information to BMEO, BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, CAIRO, BAGDAD, JEDDA, WASHINGTON, UKDEL NEW YORK. Following are texts of Parliamentary questions and answers in the house of commons on april 28th text of first question is given in para 1 below text of second question is given in para 2.

1. MR COCKS asked the secretary of state whether his attention had been called to public declaration by KING ABDULLAH of TRANSJORDAN that after may 15th he intends to invade PALESTINE and to take military action against the jews and what steps he proposed to take on this announcement under the terms of our alliance with TJ

I replied as follows. I will with permission answer this question and no 12 (ASKED BY) MR JANNER text not quoted in this telegram, Together. my attention has been drawn to press reports of 23 rd april of a declaration by KING

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering | Cipher Clerks Initials

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No.

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

2

x ABDULLAH in this sense. I do not see what steps under the terms of our alliance with TJ this announcement. Requires. As regards the arab legion, the intention is that its withdrawal from Palestine should be completed before the termination of the mandate. His majesty's government are obliged by the treaty to pay a subsidy to TJ in respect of the ARAB LEGION and to provide certain british service personel for service with that force. These obligations will still be inforce after the termination of the mandate for palestine. The treaty provides of course that nothing in it shall prejudice the rights and obligations devolving on either party under the united nations charter page 2

There were the following supplementary questions and answers. MR COCKS is it not a fact that in our treaty of alliance with TJ that country

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(8)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
3	

agree on to adopt an attitude that might create difficulties for us, and to concert with us to settle disputes by peaceful means according to the charter of the united nations. In view of that fact would not the foreign secretary draw king ABDULLAHS attention to these clauses in order that if action of that sort is to be contemplated the provisions of the treaty in regards to consultation should come into force. MR BEVIN. Certainly we shall have consultations but i must remind my hon. friend that the admission of TJ to the united nations has been vetoed every time MR JANNER apart from the relationship between TJ and the united nations does my right hon. friend say that according to the treaty that we have entered into with TJ we shall continue

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering | Cipher Clerks Initials

MESSAGE FORM

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Cipher Office Serial No.

Date

To :	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From :	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
4	

to subsidise the arab legion
if they should take unilateral action
against any section of the community
in palestine. MR BEVIN that question
does not arise MR PHILLIPS
PRICE would my right hon friend
make it clear that there is now
war against the jews but only
against the ZIONISTS mr B. Levy
is the supply of british equipment
money and officers to continue
to TJ. Page 3. Irrespective of
whom they may elect to attack.
MR BEVIN this
matter is before the UNITED NATIONS
and i must await the result of
the discussions going on. I am not
going to be drawn into any promise
or commitment about this TJ force
until i know the final decision of
the UNITED NATIONS. Major T. BEAMISH.
does not the right hon. gentleman fu
agree that it would be inaccurate and
misleading to describe the entry of
ARAB troops from the TJ into the

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T O[redacted] Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

5'

arab parts of Palestine. For the
protection of arabs interests in
Palestine and at the request of arabs
in Palestine, as invasion. MR BEVIN
i prefer not to enter into hypothetical
discussions in this subject.
The united nations organisation are
discussing this matter. i do not
despair. BRITAIN will be withdrawing.
on may 15th and when everybody
has faced that fact, much may happen
MR COCKS is it not a fact that
the treaty of alliance which i hold
in my hand has nothing what
ever to do with the membership
of transjordania with the united
nations is it not a fact also that
in article 1 transjordania agrees
not to adopt inregard to foreign
countries and attitude which is
inconsistent with the alliance and
might create difficulties for the
other party. there is nothing what
ever to do with the UNITED NATIONS.
May i ask the foreign secretarys whether

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering | Cipher Clerks Initials

MESSAGE FORM

W/T O[illegible] Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
6	

he has drawn the attention of the Transjordanian govt to the terms of that article

PHSE 4 MR BEVIN those terms have not been violated or intended to be violated by TJ i do not propose to draw their attention to the matter until i have the result of the consideration by the UNITED NATIONS when i have it then i must examine the whole problem. MR COCKS would not my right hon friend draw attention to the matter before taking action. End of supplementaries on first question.

2/. MR COCKS. Asked the secretary of state whether under the agreements to supply given quantities of arms to the arab states his majestys government have guaranteed to deliver these arms by certain fixed dates and whether in view of the publicly announced intentions of these states of some of them to invade palestine after

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering | Cipher Clerks Initials

MESSAGE FORM

W/T O[illegible] Serial No.

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

7

15th may, he will suspend for a period further deliveries of such arms. I replied as follows. The answer to the first part of the question is not here but i must point out that the govts concerned who are under and obligation to ensure that the arms and essential equipment of their forces shall not differ in type from those of our own forces, naturally expect that when they place contracts in this country we shall carry out the contracts as speedily as is technically possible with regard to the second part of the question it is impossible to forecast the outcome of the united nations discussion on palestine and the future of the country is so uncertain that it is ~~impossible~~ to take decisions now as to the action which may be required in respect of the period after the 15th may PAGE 5 . There were the following supplementary questions and answers MR COCKS. In view of the fact that

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T O[illegible] Serial No.

Cipher Office Serial No. Date

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions Indication of Priority

8.

no fixed dates are set as we
for the delivery of the arms and
the fact that the arab council of
state held a meeting this week in TJ
and of the reports from CAIRO, syria
and bagdad and that action is
contemplated in the next few days will
the rt hon gentleman suspend delivery
of these arms or allow the jews
to have arms with which to defend
themselves MR Bevin. From all my
information about palestine at present
it seems to me that the JEWS are
the be-tween armed of the two, but
i cannot draw a distinction and
i have no intention of interfering until
i get the decision of the united nations.
From that i refuse to move MR BEVIN
i appealled to both the jews and
the arabs in london and warned them
that we would leave palestine we
must remember that the british sergeants
were not hanged from the tree by
arabs
Is it not a fact that

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

9

under the ANGLO TRASJORDAN treaty
the arms of the ARAB LEGION may
not be used in Palestine without
the consent of H.M.G. Mr Bevin I must
have the notice of that question.
Mr SIGAL in view of the reports that
these arms may be used will the rt hon
gentleman say whether H.M.G. intend
to give any advice to KING ABDULLAH
to restrain him from taking any
warlike action MR Bevin I do not
think I should assume any such
thing until KING ABDULLAH is going
to do these things. I have had no
indication of it. (AHON MEMBER
he said he was going to) at the
same time I have had experience
of other people taking this action.
MR JANNER. may I ask my RT
HON friend to treat this in the
serious manner in which it deserves
to be treated will he please say
definitely to this house whether
he has any information at
all about the meeting which was

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
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Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
10	

supposed to have taken place or
did take place at AMMAN, what
was the result of the deliberations
and will he take steps to prevent
the use of arms supplied by
us to kill people in Palestine.
MR BEVIN I have no information
about that meeting. I say to
the Jews and arabs the arabs
are not in this house i say
to the Jews and arabs the way
for both of you to settle this
is to stop fighting. MR JOHN LEWIS
On a point of order, Mr Speaker am
I in order in asking foreign
secretary what he meant by the
reference to the fact that the Arabs
are not in this house.
MR SPEAKER That is not a point
of order.

BEVIN

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(58)

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 575

Cipher [illegible]ce Serial No. (13.30)

Date 29/4

Stamp: BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN 29 5/10[?]/49

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman		1120
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
London		159

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
JCP ZZZ	Most Immediate

26629 added to Amman tel no 266 of April 29th repeated to BRITISH MIDDLE EAST OFFICE, CAIRO, CAIRO, BAGDAD, BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, JEDDA, WASHINGTON, UKDEL NEW YORK ⊙ The following is text of British United press and associated press message from AMMAN yesterday's date, carried here in this morning's press ⊙ Quote arab states are now in complete agreement and will send armies to Palestine in near future, EMIR ABDUL ILLAH, REGENT of IRAQ, is reported to have stated here tonight after conference with the transjordan leaders, spokesman for transjordan government predicted that arab REGULARS would be in jerusalem within 10 days ⊙ Transjordan foreign minister later said that quote All arab regular

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

~~Cypher~~

~~Code~~

Clear

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To :—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 29/4/48 (18.02) ~~Received~~

No. 260 of 29th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.260 of 29th April.

Repeated to	UKDEL New York	No. 17
	Baghdad	No. 40
	Beirut	No. 26
	Cairo	No. 43
	Damascus	No. 28
	Jeddah	No. 19
	B.M.E.O.	No. 33
	Jerusalem	No. 36

PALESTINE.

Your telegram No.266 (of 29th April, 1948.)

Report by press correspondents of statements alleged to have been given by the Regent of Iraq and by Transjordan Foreign Minister regarding movement of regular Arab armies is not true. I can only imagine that correspondents report was based on the rumours with which Amman is filled. Neither of the persons mentioned have made any statement at all.

In my following telegram I am reporting decisions reached here to-day by representatives of Arab States.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York, Jedda and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos.17, 19 and 36 respectively.

(ASK/MH/HA).

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. To :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 29/4/48 (19.40) ~~Received~~

No. 261 of 29th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.261 of 29th April.

Repeated for information to	UKDEL New York	No. 18
	Baghdad	No. 41
	Beirut	No. 27
	Cairo	No. 44
	Damascus	No. 29
	Jeddah	No. 20
	B.M.E.O.	No. 34
	Jerusalem	No. 37

SECRET.

PALESTINE.

The Prime Minister of Transjordan gave me the following information about a meeting which was held at Amman to-day to discuss the situation in Palestine. Those present were King Abdullah, the Regent of Iraq, the Transjordan Ministers, the Iraqi Ministers who accompanied the Regent and the Secretary General of the Arab League.

The Prime Minister of the Lebanon and the Lebanese Minister of Defence will reach Amman later this afternoon.

2. The Regent and his Ministers brought back from Egypt an undertaking by the Egyptian Government to engage the Egyptian Army in southern Palestine if the other Arab States undertook to intervene at the same time with their troops. In view of Cairo's telegram to you No.522 (of 28th April, 1948) I queried this statement but the Transjordan Minister for Foreign Affairs who returned from Cairo with the Regent is categorical in maintaining that this is so.

3. The meeting here to-day decided in principle in favour of intervention by the regular Arab armies. As regards the question of date King Abdullah provoked a heated discussion by saying that he could not intervene before the 15th of May 1948, the others maintained that they could not be bound by this date in view of the Jewish offensives.

The/...2

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

The Prime Minister of Transjordan overcame the difficulty by proposing that the actual date of intervention would be decided when everyone was ready. (Commenting to me he remarked that he was certain that the others would not be ready before the 15th of May. The Iraqi force said to be of brigade strength was not due to arrive at Mafrak before the 7th and no arrangements had yet been made for its maintenance and supply).

4. The real argument arose over command. King Abdullah maintained that it should be in Transjordan hands at Amman. Azzam was in favour of a continuation of the present arrangement with Headquarters at Damascus under Ismail Safwat or another Iraqi General, Nur Ed Din Mohamed. The Iraqis want to keep an Iraqi in general command wherever Headquarters may be situated. The Egyptians have expressed readiness to accept Transjordan control. The Prime Minister of Transjordan said definitely that Transjordan would not place the Arab Legion under the existing command at Damascus.

Eventually it was agreed by those present that as far as they were concerned each state should retain its independent command and be allocated an operational zone in Palestine. It was assumed that Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia would agree to this.

5. The Arab League has allocated a sum of one and a half million pounds to finance the opening stages of the operation. The expenditure of this amount will be in the hands of the Secretary General of the Arab League personally. (This arrangement seems to invite future friction about funds).

6. The next step is for representatives of the general staffs of the armies concerned to meet and work out technical details of a plan to put this decision into force both as regards troop movements and on the questions of supply as regards which everyone is very vague. The Transjordan Government have invited the meeting to take place at Amman.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York, Jedda and Jerusale as my telegrams Nos.18, 20 and 37 respectively.

(ASK/MH/HIM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(S/1014/48).

To qu { 1st Sec. / 2nd Sec. }

(61)

BRITISH LEGATION,

AMMAN.

29th April, 1948.

Dear Tewfiq Pasha,

You may be interested in the texts of the following questions and answers which were exchanged in Parliament on the 28th of the month on subjects connected with Transjordan.

2. Question.
Whether the Secretary of State for War would give details of the military equipment and material recently passed over to the Arab Legion and whether in view of the declaration of King Abdullah that the Legion will take action against the Jews after the 15th of May he will ask for the return of such military equipment and material.

Answer by Mr. Shinwell.
Such issues which have been made in accordance with treaty obligations have been from stocks held in the Middle East. Precise details of recent issues under the approved programme are not available in this country.

As regards the second part of the question, this is presumably a matter for my right honourable friend the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Question.
Was there any stipulation that this equipment should not be used against Zionists and in view of the fact that King Abdullah has now invaded Palestine will equivalent equipment be transferred to the Jews to ensure equal treatment between the two sides.

Answer by Mr. Shinwell.
On that question which appears to have been derived from Press reports, I would beg my honourable friends to suspend judgement.

Question.
Could my right honourable friend say whether he is taking any steps to ascertain how many of these members of the Arab Legion are participating in attacks upon Palestine people and whether in view of the fact that they are obviously supplied with ammunition and officered by British officers he will see that neither ammunition nor any other possibility of attack is given to them.

Answer by Mr. Shinwell.
We have no information that members of the Arab Legion are making attacks on Jews.

Question.
Whether the Secretary of State for War is aware that Units of the Arab Legion while in Palestine have been provided with surplus arms and military material left to them by the British security forces now evacuating Palestine and that members of the Arab Legion are actively assisting the Arab bands who are invading Palestine at present from outside territories and what steps he proposes to take in the matter.

Reply by Mr.Shinwell/...2

His Excellency,
Tewfiq Pasha Abul Huda, C.B.E.,
Prime Minister of Transjordan,
AMMAN.

PP 57

Reply by Mr. Shinwell.

All military equipment supplied to the Arab Legion has been supplied under the terms of contracts made last year in accordance with the Anglo-Transjordan Treaty of Alliance. There is no evidence that members of the Arab Legion are assisting Arab bands from outside Palestine. The Units of the Arab Legion which remain in Palestine are operating under orders of the General Officer Commanding Palestine in an internal security role.

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3. Question.

Whether the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs had had his attention called to a public declaration by King Abdullah of Transjordan that after May the 15th he intends to invade Palestine and to take military action against the Jews and what steps he proposed to take on this announcement under the terms of our alliance with Transjordan.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.

My attention has been drawn to press reports of the 23rd of April of a declaration by King Abdullah in this sense. I do not see what steps under the terms of our alliance with Transjordan this announcement requires. As regards the Arab Legion, the intention is that its withdrawal from Palestine should be completed before the termination of the Mandate.

His Majesty's Government are obliged by the treaty to pay a subsidy to Transjordan in respect of the Arab Legion and to provide certain British service personnel for service with that force. These obligations will still be in force after the termination of the Mandate for Palestine. The treaty provides of course that nothing in it shall prejudice the rights and obligations devolving on either parties under the United Nations Charter.

Question.

Is it not a fact that in our treaty of alliance with Transjordan that country agrees not to adopt an attitude that might create difficulties for us and to consult with us to settle disputes by peaceful means according to the Charter of the United Nations. In view of that fact would not the Foreign Secretary draw King Abdullah's attention to these clauses in order that if action of that sort is to be contemplated the provisions of the treaty in regards to consultation should come into force.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.

Certainly we shall have consultations but I must remind my honourable friend that the admission of Transjordan to the United Nations has been vetoed every time.

Question.

Apart from the relationship between Transjordan and the United Nations does my right honourable friend say that according to the treaty that we have entered into with Transjordan we shall continue to subsidise the Arab Legion if they should take unilateral action against any section of the community in Palestine.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.

That question does not arise.

Question/...3

Question.

Would my right honourable friend make it clear that there is now war against the Jews not only Zionists and is the supply of British equipment money and officers to continue to Transjordan irrespective of whom they may elect to attack.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.

This matter is before the United Nations and I must await the result of the discussions going on. I am not going to be drawn into any promise or commitment about this Transjordan force until I know the final decision of the United Nations.

Question.

Does the right honourable gentleman agree that it would be inaccurate and misleading to describe the entry of Arab troops from Transjordan into the Arab parts of Palestine for the protection of Arab interests and at the request of the Arabs in Palestine, as invasion.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.

I prefer not to enter into hypothetical discussions on this subject. The United Nations Organisation are discussing this matter. I do not despair. Britain will be withdrawing on May the 15th and when everybody has faced this fact, much may happen.

Question.

Is it not a fact that the treaty of alliance has nothing whatever to do with the membership of Transjordan with the United Nations. Is it not a fact also that in article 1 Transjordan agrees not to adopt in regard to foreign countries an attitude inconsistent with the alliance and might create difficulties for the other party. May I ask the Foreign Secretary whether he has drawn the attention of the Transjordan Government to the terms of that article.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.

Those terms have not been violated or intended to be violated by Transjordan. I do not propose to draw their attention to the matter until I have the result of the consideration by the United Nations. When I have it then I must examine the whole problem.

Question.

In view of the fact that no fixed dates are set for the delivery of arms and equipment and the fact that the Arab Council of State held a meeting this week in Transjordan and of the reports from Cairo, Syria and Baghdad that action is contemplated in the next few days will the right honourable gentleman suspend delivery of these arms or allow the Jews to have arms with which to defend themselves.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.

From all my information about Palestine at present it seems to me that the Jews are the better armed of the two, but I cannot draw a distinction and I have no intention of interfering until I get the decision of the United Nations. From that I refuse to move.

I appealled to both Jews and Arabs in London and warned them that we would leave Palestine. We must remember that the British sergeants were not hanged from the tree by Arabs.

Question/...4

Question.
In view of the reports that these arms may be used will the right honourable gentleman say whether His Majesty's Government intend to give any advice to King Abdullah to restrain him from taking warlike action.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.
I do not think that I should assume any such thing until King Abdullah is going to do these things. I have had no indication of it. At the same time I have experience of other people taking this action.

Question.
May I ask my right honourable friend to treat this in the serious manner it deserves. Will he please say definitely whether he has any information at all about the meeting which was supposed to have taken place and did take place at Amman. What were the results of the deliberations and will he take steps to prevent the use of arms supplied by us to kill people in Palestine.

Answer by Mr. Bevin.
I have no information about that meeting. I say to the Jews and Arabs, and the Arabs are not in this house, I say to the Jews and Arabs, the way for both of you to settle this is to stop fighting.

Yours sincerely,

ASK/HA. (Sgd.) A. S. KIRKBRIDE

Copy to:- S/873/46.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM.

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, CAIRO. *To* :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 27/4/48 (16.38) Received 27/4/48 (17.00)

No. 39 of 26th April, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office(1) telegram No.5(1)14 of April 26th. Repeated for information Damascus, Jerusalem, Beirut, Baghdad, Amman, Jedda, Washington and UKDEL New York.

Your telegram No.197 to Damascus: PALESTINE.

In view of the failure of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to keep an appointment with me yesterday I sent (2 gps. undec.) to speak to the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs as(1) instructed in your telegram referred to above and to ask him to convey the message(1) to his Minister. The Under Secretary naturally took the(1) opportunity to express proces - verbaux about the plight of the Arabs in Palestine and safety of the Egyptian nationals particularly in Haifa. He did however say so far as he was aware it was not the intention of the Egyptian Government at present to make any move which might constitute active interference in Palestine. But he avoided any assurance as regards advisability of checking any influx of volunteers from Egypt into Palestine. He promised to pass my message to his Minister.

2. The press reports that the Egyptian Cabinet last night had long discussion on Palestine. The presence in Cairo of the Regent of Iraq and members of Arab(1) League political committee has intensified the atmosphere of urgency and leading newspapers are clamouring for energetic action by the Arab League in support of the Palestine Arabs. According to the usually(1) well informed newspaper "ZAMANE" the Arab Governments have definitely decided to intervene in Palestine with their regular armies, those of Transjordan and Iraq immediately and those of Syria and Lebanon standing to on the frontier. There is a general expectation that important decision are imminent as regards

military/...2

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code - 2 0

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

military intervention as a result of the discussions in Amman and the current meetings above mentioned not yet (gp.undec.) in Cairo. According to "AHRAM" the premiers of Syria and the Lebanon propose to go to Riyadh to discuss the Palestine situation with Ibn Saud.

3. I have been unable to secure appointment (? with omitted) the Minister for Foreign Affairs to-day since he is occupied with discussions with the Regent of Iraq etc. but I am hoping to see him to-morrow when I will repeat the representations.

Foreign Office please pass Washington and UKDEL as my telegrams Nos. ~~16~~ 15 and 6.

(PW/JS/HIM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

To Sec

1st ... 2nd Sec

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To* :—H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 28/4/48 (12.35) Received 28/4/48 (12.35)

No. 255 of 27th April, 1948.

SECRET.

Addressed to UKDEL New York(1) telegram No.1726 of April 27th.

Repeated to Jerusalem, Cairo, Baghdad, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus, Amman, B.M.E.O. and Washington(TW).

Your telegram No.1277.

Following for the Colonial Secretary from Foreign Secretary.

The Ministers have carefully considered the question of the earlier termination of the Mandate in the light of the High Commissioner's telegram No.1073 of April 21st and of the Commanders-in-Chief(1) Middle East telegram No.227/CCL of April 22nd, (copies of which were sent to the delegation by the Colonial Office by bag) and of the High Commissioner's telegram No.1160.

We fully appreciate the very serious difficulties which our civil and military authorities in Palestine will have to face while the Mandate continues. We are also impressed by the difficulties which our representatives in the Arab States(1) are likely to meet in persuading these states to refrain from direct action until May 15th in view of our evident inability to maintain law and order(1) in Palestine meanwhile. Nevertheless we are (gp.undec.) on the whole the international disadvantages of changing the date, to which you draw attention in your telegram under reference must outweigh the above considerations. We have therefore decided that the date of May 15th for termination of the Mandate must be adhered to and that the British civil and military authorities in Palestine must do their best meanwhile to retain control of the situation even though we realise that it will not be practically possible for them to prevent all outbreaks of Arab-Jewish fighting or to resist major incursions from outside Palestine if such should occur.

2/...2

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

2. We accept the view that the Mandate could not be even theoretically carried on after Jerusalem was evacuated. The suggestion mentioned by the High Commissioner that the Mandate should be replaced by martial law in the whole (1) of Palestine does not appear to be practicable or advantageous. It follows therefore from the above decision that the High Commissioner cannot be given ~~the~~ discretion to leave Jerusalem before May 15th.

3. We trust you agree with this decision and shall be glad of any (1) further comments you may have.

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. 3442~~7~~.

✓ P.W.

(JFS/HIM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM.

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, BAGHDAD. *To* :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 29/4/48 (13.35) Received 29/4/48 (17.30)

No. 60 of 29th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.460.
Repeated for information B.M.E.O. Cairo, Amman, Jedda, Damascus, Beirut, Jerusalem, Washington(1) and UKDEL New York(1)

My telegram No.458.

PALESTINE.

The mechanised force or at any rate part of it passed through Baghdad westwards at 00.01 hours G(1)MT April 29th.

2. The force normally comprises one regiment of armoured cars, 1 lorried infantry battalion, and two half (half - Sic) regiments of artillery (i.e. 24 by 25 pounders). Total about 1500 men.

Foreign Office please pass to Washington and UKDEL as my telegrams 26 and 11 respectively.

(PW/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(65)

~~Cypher~~ TELEGRAM

~~Code~~

Clear

From :- H.C. Jerusalem To:- Amman

Despatched 1140 30/4 Received 1145 30/4

No. 1295 of

MOST IMMEDIATE

Army report that the Arab Legion Commander at GESHER has delivered an ultimatum to the settlement that unless the Jews evacuate by 1200 today he will raze the settlement. Should be most grateful for any action you can take to prevent such action

(79)

(Recd via R.A.F. G.A.N/[illegible])

(66)

~~Cypher~~ TELEGRAM

~~Code~~

Clear

From :- H C Jerusalem To:- H.M.M Amman

Despatched 1140 30/4 Received 1145 30/4

No. 1294 of

MOST IMMEDIATE

(39)

Your N° 258 not received when I wrote my N° 1289 but present reports from GESHER make it applicable

(Recd via R.A.F GAN/[illegible])

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 571

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date 29/4

To: Pro A	**TIME OF ORIGIN**	**TIME OF RECEIPT** 0100
From: Pro London	**Originators No.**	**Number of Groups** 206

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN 29 5/101/4/48 (8 u 71) (16.30)

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
	Immediate

26428. Following received from PALESTINE telegram UNNUMBERED of april 28 th begins.

Grateful if you arrange following passed to AMMAN begins

His majesty king ABDULLAH IBN HUSSEIN AMMAN Transjordan THE security council truce commission for palestine Has been informed that the government of TRANSJORDAN forces will shortly march across the PALESTINE frontier. As your majesty is aware the UNITED NATIONS general assembly at this time is discussing the question of PALESTINE moreover the security council acting in accordance with the charter of THE UNITED NATIONS is at present considering the problem of the maintanance of peace in the country and has created this truce commission for the purpose of bringing about a truce from hostilities in the holy land any

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering — Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. ....

Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

2

warlike decision or action on
the part of TRANSJORDAN will undoubtedly
be the cause of the greatest
censure by the security council
and the entire united nations as
a possible threat to the peace.
Accordingly the security council
truce commission for PALESTINE
urges your majesty in the
strongest terms to abstain from
any military decisions or acts
which may be under contempla
-tion by your majesty's govt
the security council truce comm
-ission for PALESTINE JEAN NIEUWE
NHUYS CHAIRMAN ends [illegible]

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

pour (67) (68A)

His Majesty King ABDULLAH IBN HUSSEIN Amman, Transjordan.

The security council truce commission for Palestine has been informed that the Government of Transjordan forces will shortly march across the Palestine frontier. As Your Majesty is aware the United Nations General Assembly at this time is discussing the question of Palestine. Moreover the security council acting in accordance with the charter of the United Nations is at present considering the problem of the maintenance of peace in the country and has created this truce commission for the purpose of bringing about a truce from hostilities in the Holy land any warlike decision or action on the part of Transjordan will undoubtedly be the cause of the greatest censure by the security council and the entire United Nations as a possible threat to the peace. Accordingly the security council truce commission for Palestine urges Your Majesty in the strongest terms to abstain from any military decisions or acts which may be under contemplation by Your Majesty's Government.

The security council truce commission for Palestine.

JEAN NIUWENHUYS Chairman.

(77) (78)

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/873/46.

TELEGRAM.

(69)

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :—CAIRO (Memin) *To* :—H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 29/4/48 (05.02) Received 29/4/48 (06.30)

No. 30 of 27th April, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.141.
Repeated to Amman.
SECRET.

Subject is supply of arms and equipment to the Arab States.

Following is a list of the major items of capital equipment issued to the Arab Legion from Palestine stock(1)s up to March 31st 1948.

(A) Serial	(B) Item	(C) Quantity
1	STEN Guns	191
2	Mortars 3"	8
3	6 Pounder Anti-tank Guns	24
4	25 Pounder Guns	12
5	Wireless Station No.19	4
6	Wireless Station No.19	5
7	Wireless Station 22 truck/Ground	6
8	Motor CYCLES(1)	132
9	Trailers Artillery No.27	24
10	Lorries(1) 3 ton Machinery	3
11	Lorries 3 ton Machinery	3
12	Lorries 3 ton WINCH	2
13	Lorries 3 ton 6x4 GANTRY	1
14	Lorries 3 ton Light	1
15	Tractors 6x4 Heavy	2
16	Trailers(1) 15cwt. Water(180 gallons)	24
17	Trailers 2 ton 2 wheel General (Set - Sie) 22 KILO(1)WATT	2
18	Trailers 2 ton 4 wheel general Service	4

Copy to:-, S/1014/48.
(JFS/HIM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

(70)

C.S.O. 67.

TELEGRAM

Code, Cypher or Clear? 6 Clear

From HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PALESTINE

To Secretary of State

Despatched 22.4.48 at 2000 hrs.

GPP. 28281—15,000—8.8.47

BRITISH LEGATION 29 AMMAN S/1014/48

No.1091 Immediate

Repeated Washington No.281
UKDEL No.1137
Damascus No.1138

Saving: Memin (please pass to Ambassador C-in-C) Beirut. Amman. Jeddah. Aden. British Consul Aleppo

Stamm To see 1st Sec. 2nd Sec.

INCIDENTS APRIL 21ST

1. A Police armoured car with British driver and escorts transporting six Syrian prisoners to Allenby Bridge for deportation to Syria was held up at Damascus Gate by approximately 100 armed Arabs who released the prisoners.

2. On Jaffa-Jerusalem road Arabs held up a Post Office van and stole 14 sacks of mail in transit from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

3. At kilo 81 on the main Haifa-Tel Aviv road two British soldiers were fired upon by unknown persons believed to be Jews while they were repairing their jeep. One was killed and one seriously injured.

4. A Police truck in Haifa was fired on by unknown persons. The British constable who was driving was fatally injured.

5. On the 20th April armed Arabs entered P.W.D. buildings in Jaffa and stole 4 trucks a water cart and other equipment of total value of LP.10,000.

6. In Bank Street Haifa one British Police sergeant was shot dead and nother wounded by unknown snipers.

7. In other incidents casualties were:

Arabs 1 wounded

Jews 6 killed 9 wounded

(Mr. Fox Strangways)

12. Clear.

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN
29 S/1014/48

Secretary of State.

To [illegible]

23.4.48. at 1300 hrs.

No. 1100 [illegible]. Repeated to Washington No. 205, Unbel No. 1150, (saving) Damascus, Bonin, (please pass to Ambassador, C-in-C) Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Aden, British Consul Aleppo.

Incident Report April 22nd.

1. The sum of £.18000 was stolen by Arabs from General Post Office staff who had just collected it from Barclays Bank, Jerusalem. The money represented salaries of G.P.O. staff. The exact circumstances of the theft are not clear.

2. Approximately 40 Arabs from BIR [illegible] Village attacked [illegible] but withdrew on being engaged by a military armoured car.

3. Military fired one six-pounder shell at Jews in Yemen Moshe Quarter Jerusalem who were sniping at Arabs near the Jaffa Gate.

4. A strike was declared in NABLUS town as a protest against food control enforced by Arab National Guard and the black market operated by certain merchants.

5. On the 20th April some 250 Jews attack [illegible] and [illegible] villages in the [illegible] District, Military intervened, and the attack was frustrated but a school and a house were damaged. Arab casualties were 3 killed and 6 wounded. Arabs captured from the Jews 40 rifles 2 Bren Guns 2 Sten Guns a 2 inch-mortar and a quantity of ammunition and bombs.

6. On 21st April a Jewish convoy going from NITZANIM Colony to BEER TUVIYA in the GAZA District was attacked by Arabs. As a reprisal the Jews attacked BEIT DARAS. Military intervened and persuaded the Arabs to stop firing; but when the British Commander approached the Jews he was shot at from a range of 20 yards. 4 Jews were killed and 20 wounded; approximately 40 Arabs were wounded.

7. In other incidents casualties reported were

Jews	7 killed 4 wounded
Arabs	2 killed 1 wounded

(these figures do not include the Haifa fighting which is reported separately.)

(Mr. Fox-Strangways)

24/4/48

12. Clear. 29 S/1014/48.

SECRETARY OF STATE LONDON.

24.4.48 at 1800 hrs.

No.1117.

IMMEDIATE

Repeated Washington 290 UKDEL 1178 Damascus No.1179

Repeated SAVING
Cairo (Please pass to Ambassador, C-in-C)
Beirut
Amman
Jeddah
Aden
British Consul Aleppo.

To see { H.M. / 1st [illegible] / 2nd [illegible]

Incident report April 23rd.

1. A large party of Jews supported by armoured cars heavily attacked villagers of BEIT IKSA(,) BIDDU and NEBI SAMUEL near Jerusalem (.) Arabs claim to have repulsed attack (,) killed over 100 Jews and captured three armoured cars and considerable amount of arms and ammunition (.) Six Arabs killed one injured (.)

2. A Police armoured personnel carrier escorting mail was stopped at kilo 5 on RAMALLAH road near Jerusalem by a military truck attended by what appeared to be three British soldiers (.) Immediately the APC stopped it was surrounded by a large force of armed Arabs who held up the crew and stole the vehicle and mail (.)

3. In other incidents casualties reported were :-

Arabs 8 killed 10 wounded
Jews 5 killed 14 wounded.

12. Clear.

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN
29 S/1014/48

SECRETARY OF STATE LONDON.

25.4.48 at 1300 hrs.

No.1127.

IMMEDIATE.

Repeated to Washington No.294 (please pass to UKDEL 1198)

Damascus 1199.

Repeated Saving Bemin Cairo (please pass to Ambassador...

C-in-C...)

Amman
Beirut
Jedda
British Consul Aleppo
Aden.

Incidents 24th/25th April (.)

1. At midday on 24th April two British constables were shot by Arabs in Ramillah Road Jerusalem and robbed of their arms. One killed one seriously injured.

2. From 0145 to 0640 heavy firing and explosions were heard from SHEIKH JARRAH quarter. Jews occupied the quarter from direction of [illegible] road. The roads including main RAMALLAH road were mined. Jews destroyed some houses in NASHASHIBI quarter. Main road now cleared of mines. Jews reported reinforcing settlements of ATAROT and NEVE YACOV.

6. Clear.

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN 29 S/1014/48

SECRETARY OF STATE LONDON.

25.4.48 at 1800 hrs.

No.1134. MOST IMMEDIATE

To see { HMM / Vice / 2nd Sec

Repeated to Washington 297 (for UKDEL) Memin Cairo 65 (for Ambassador and C-in-C) Damascus 1207 Beirut 1208

(Saving) Amman Aden British Consul Aleppo.

Incidents 25th Part Two.

At 0710 25th April heavy Jewish morter attack started on MANSHIEH and AJAMI quarters of Jaffa also on King George Avenue BUSTRAS Street and Old City near port. There was a lull shortly after 0900 but at 1000 the mortaring started again and was still continuing at 1330.

2. Considerable numbers of Arabs evacuated affected parts of town, moving in direction of JABALIYEH quarter. Casualties so far known 2 Arabs and 2 Jews killed and 64 Arabs wounded. One only telephone operator remaining at work in G.P.O.

3. Jaffa/Jerusalem road near MIKVEH ISRAEL Colony just outside Jaffa was cut by Jews who held the break with armoured cars. Break has now been repaired and road is again passable for wheeled traffic.

4. At midday 25th April Jewish staff of LYDDA airport walked out taking with them part of radio equipment. Radio now out of action except ground to air in vicinity of airport. Restaurant staff leaving. Most of Arab staff still at posts. Control tower still being operated. Military now moving in to airport building.

5. Later report Jaffa. Situation now quiet but tense.

8. I.T.

BRITISH LEGATION
29 APR 1948
AMMAN

To Secretary of State.

26.4.48. at 1130 hrs.

No. 1138 Secret. Repeated to Washington No. 298(please pass to UKDEL) No. 1215, MEMIN CAIRO No. 66, (Please pass to Ambassador, C-in-C) Beirut No. 1216, Damascus No. 1217, and Saving: AMMAN Jeddah British Consul Aleppo, Aden, Baghdad.

In the 24 hours ended midday 25th April JERUSALEM cypher office dealt with 79 repeat 79 telegrams. Four of these by themselves contained 3600 groups.

2. Grateful for every effort to curtail telegraphic correspondence and to send telegrams in clear whenever possible. In existing conditions in JERUSALEM it is not repeat not likely that we shall be able maintain volume of work quoted above.

3. You will have seen from my telegram 1103 (not to all) that transmission after 5th May will be through Foreign Office unit here. I understand that this unit can handle a daily maximum of 5000 repeat 5000 groups only.

(Mr. Fox-Strangways) 26/4/48

CS 725/2

9. Clear.

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN S/1014/48

Secretary of State.

26.4.48. at 1800 hrs.

No. 1151. Addressed to Secretary of State No. 1151 IMMEDIATE

Repeated to Washington No. 302 (for Jkdel 1232)
Menin Cairo No. 68 (for Ambass'r and C-i-c No. 78)
Damascus No. 1233.
Repeated saving Aden Amman Beirut B/Consul Aleppo.

Incidents.

1. Sheikh Jarrah quarter nowunder control following military action 25th.

2. On 25th Miss Hilda Andersen aged 50, a Swedish Christian missionary, was shot dead by a Jewish sniper firing from Hebrew University.

3. A military goods train was derailed near RAMLE by sabotage of permanent way. Three British soldiers killed one seriously and several slightly injured.

4. A large party of armed Jews fruitlessly attacked BASSA Police Post in Galilee District.

5. An Italian schooner named SAN MICHELE arrived at HAIFA with 789 Jewish illegal immigrants who were transferred to CYPRUS.

6. During an attack by Jews on Acre town two mortar bombs fell in ACRE gaol. All convicted Arab prisoners rioted and escaped.

7. At 1135 26th April there was heavy mortaring of MANSHIEH quarter JAFFA and MANSHIEH Police Station was attacked by Jews with armoured cars grenades and small arms. No casualties yet reported.

8. On night 25th/26th TIRA village south of HAIFA was mortared by Jews. Casualties not known. Haifa town quiet.

9. An Army staghound vehicle was stolen in Jerusalem on 26th April.

10. Armed Arabs stole the two fire engines and all the equipment of the Jerusalem Fire Brigade on 25th April.

11. In other incidents casualties reported were:-

Jews wounded 5

Arabs wounded 10.

(Mr. Fox-Strangways) 27/4/48

77

لجنة الهدنة بفلسطين التابعة لهيئة الأمم المتحدة

تلقيت برقيتكم . اما الأعتداء فهو واقع من الجانب اليهودى على القرى والمدن الكبرى ، فأذا ضمنتم عدم اعتدائهم فلاعدوان منا . وقد نصحناهم بما هو معـــروف لديهم بأن يكونوا مواطنين في فلسطين لهم ما لنا وعليهم ما علينا .

ومن المعلوم ان الأمة العربية بما في ذلك دولها في منظمة الأمم المتحدة قد رفضت التقسيم كما رفضت قبول انشاء دولة يهودية تنازع العرب سيادتهم في بلادهم .

وعلاوة على عدوانهم نخبركم بأن الألوف من اللاجئين العرب نساء ورجالا قـــد ملؤا مملكتنا والمملكة المصرية وسوريا ولبنان مما اقتضى اقامة معسكرات ايواء في كل مكان لهم ، كما اعلن اليهود الأدارة العرفية بحيفا وهم يعملون لأثبات وجود دولـــــة يهودية ووضع العالم امام الأمر الواقع ، وذلك كله يخالف مقررات مجلس الأمـــن الخاصة بالهدنة . وفي وسعكم حملهم على رفع كل اعتداء والعدول عن فكرة اقامـــة الدولة اليهودية ليمكن ان يسود السلام الأرض المقدسة .

68A

29/4/48

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

~~Cypher~~

~~Code~~

Clear

78

From:— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. - *To:*— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 30/4/48 (12.15) ~~Received~~

No. 262 of 30th April, 1948.

(67)

PALESTINE.

Your telegram No.264 (of 28th April, 1948).

Please pass to Jerusalem the following translation of King Abdullah's reply to the Truce Commission:- - Begins.

"To the Palestine Truce Committee emanating from the United Nations Organisation.

I am in receipt of your telegram. Aggression is being directed by the Jews against villages and big towns but if you guarantee that there shall be no aggression from their part then no aggression shall come from our part. We have advised them, of what they are aware, to be citizens in Palestine who enjoy the same rights as we do and have the same obligation as we.

It is known that the Arab nation including her member states of the United Nations Organisation have rejected partition as well as the establishment of a Jewish state which would compete with the Arabs for their sovereignty in their homeland.

In addition to Jewish aggression, we have to inform you that thousands of Arab refugees, men and women, have flooded our kingdom, the Egyptian kingdom, Syria and the Lebanon, which fact necessitates the erection everywhere of camps for accommodating them. Furthermore the Jews have announced a national administration at Haifa and are trying to prove the existence of a Jewish state in order to confront the world with an accomplished fact. All these facts are contradictory to the decisions of the Security Council regarding a truce. You may compel them to remove every aggression and abandon the idea of establishing the Jewish state thus making it possible for establishment of peace in the Holy Land.Abdullah" Ends.

(HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

To the Palestine Truce Committee emanating from the United Nations Organization.

I am in receipt of your telegram. Aggression is being directed by the Jews against villages and big towns but if you guarantee that there shall be no aggression from their part then no aggression shall come from our part. We have advised them , of what they are aware, to be ~~compatriots~~ citizens in Palestine who enjoy the same rights as we do and have the same obligation as we.

It is known that the Arab nation including her member states ~~at~~ of the United Nations Organization have rejected partition as well as the establishment of a Jewish state which would ~~contend~~ compete with the Arabs ~~over~~ for their sovereignty in their homeland.

In addition to ~~the~~ Jewish aggression, we have to inform you that thousands of Arab refugees, men and women, have flooded our kingdom, the Egyptian kingdom, Syria and the Lebanon, which fact necessitates the erection everywhere of camps for accommodating them. Furthermore the Jews have announced a national administration at Haifa and are trying to prove the existence of a Jewish state ~~to~~ in order to confront the world with ~~the~~ an accomplished fact. All these facts are contradictory to the decisions of the Security Council regarding a truce. You may compell them to remove every aggression and abandon the idea of establishing the Jewish state thus making it possible for establishment of peace in the Holy Land.

(Sgd) Abdullah.

FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM.

79

~~Cypher~~

~~Code~~

Clear

From:— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To:—* High Commissioner, JERUSALEM.

Despatched 30/4/48 (12.30) ~~Received~~

No. 38 of 30th April, 1948.

Your message No.1295 (of 30th April, 1948).

The report you refer to is clearly an echo from the 28th. The situation at Jisr Majami is now quiet and no action of the nature suggested is threatened.by Transjordan. Any further firing by Jews into Transjordan territory would however be replied to by Transjordan post on the bridge.

(Despatched via R.A.F. Signals at 12.30 - H.D.LeM. 30/4/48).

(ASK/HIM/HA).

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

79A

Cypher

~~En clair~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:—* F.O. LONDON

Despatched 30.4.1948 (18.32) ~~Received~~

No. 266 MOST IMMEDIATE 30th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.266 of April 30th repeated for information to

Ukdel New York	No.19
Baghdad	No.42
Beirut	No.30
Cairo	No.45
Damascus	No.30
Jedda	No.21
B.M.E.O.	No.35
Jerusalem	No.39

SECRET.

Your telegram No.277 and my telegram No.261.

Following is repetition (para 2 first sentence) asked for.

Quote An undertaking by the Egyptian Government to engage the Egyptian army in southern Palestine unquote.

Foreign Office please pass to Ukdel New York, Jedda and Jerusalem as my telegrams 19, 21 and 39 respectively.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(269 from FO)

79B

MESSAGE FORM

W/T [redacted] Serial No. 594

Cipher Office Serial No. 1535 30/4

Date 30/4

To:		TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Pro	H	8/Nov/48	1252
From:		Originators No.	Number of Groups
Pro	London		21

BRITISH LE... 30 ... AMMAN

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
	Most Immediate

1	27730. Your tel 261 para 2 first	4
2	sentence. Please repeat from	8
3	Quote an undertaking unquote	12
4	to quote southern palestine unquote	16
5	Bevin.	20
6		24
7		28
8		32
9		36
10		40
11		44
12		48
13		52
14		56
15		60
16		64
17		68
18		72
19		76
20		80
21		84
22		88
23		92
24		96
25		100

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(W/T) (S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

(80)

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M. Ambassador, BAGHDAD To :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 30.4.48 (13.22) Received 30.4.48 (13.20)

No. 61 of 30th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.467 of April 30th repeated for information to B.M.E.O., Cairo, Jerusalem, Washington, Amman, Beirut, Jedda, Damascus.

Jerusalem telegram No.83 to (1) Cairo.

PALESTINE.

I feel bound to repeat the warning in para 3 of my telegram No.453. If His Majesty's Government decide to abandon the Mandate or (while retaining the Mandate) ~~the~~ evacuates ~~ion of~~ Jerusalem before May 15th it is in my view imperative that we give two or three days private warning to the Iraqi and other (1) Arab Governments. Even if the truce hadbeen arranged in the comparatively(?) small area of the old city, the evacuation of the rest without (1) warning would lead to accusations by all circles here of treachery to the Arabs and it will be said that further advantage has been given to the Jews since only our repeated (1) representations have prevented the movement of Arab forces until now. The complete falsity of this idea will not prevent it obtaining (1) wide credence. In such a case there would certainly be (1) attacks on the Jews here and probably on British subjects too.

80A

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 565

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date 28/4

To :	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Pro H.	(06.30)	2117
From :	Originators No.	Number of Groups
Pro Beirut		57

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

29 5/1014/48

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

1	03928. Addressed to FO tel no	4
2	308 of 28th april, repeated for	8
3	information to Washington, UKDEL	12
4	new york, Jerusalem, Cairo, BMEO,	16
5	Bagdad, Jedda, Damascus and	20
6	Amman.	24
7	Your tel no 274.	28
8	Action taken. (LONDON ONLY) please	32
9	pass Washington and UKDEL new york	36
10	as my tels 13 and 14. (CAIRO only)	40
11	Please pass MEMIN as my tel 88	44
12	HMMIN	48
13		52
14		56
15		60
16		64
17		68
18		72
19		76
20		80
21		84
22		88
23		92
24		96
25		100

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

(81)

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Gxxkxx~~

~~xGtexxx~~

From:— S. of S. Foreign Office LONDON. *To:—* H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 29.4.48 (21.15) Received 29.4.48 (21.20)

No. 263 of 28th April, 1948.

SECRET.

Addressed to Amman telegram No.263 (1) of 28th April, repeated to Ukdel New York, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O., Jerusalem.

Your telegrams Nos. 230 (not to alladdressees) and 234.

You will now have seen from my telegram No.1726 to Ukdel New York that it has been decided that the date for the termination of the Mandate must stand at May 15th. In these circumstances there is no possibility of our consenting to any arrangements by which King Abdullah might be able to intervene (1) in Palestine before May 15th. We have been considerably embarrassed by unfriendly reports that he had already done so.

2. If you are short of other arguments, you might perhaps consider saying to him that nothing would so well suit his ill-wishers both amongst the Arabs and amongst the Jews if he were involved in trouble with this government owing to some precipate action which he might take.

----

(108)

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T) (S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher (M/OTP)

Code

Clear

From:— S. of S. F.O. LONDON *To:—* H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 30.4.48 Received 30.4.48 (15.35)

No. 276 of 30th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Amman telegram No.276 of 30th April repeated for information to Cairo, Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, B.M.E.O..

My telegram No.269. NAZARETH.

According to information since received a British unit was due to take up position in Nazareth on April 29th to maintain communication on the Haifa-Nazareth-JENIN (1) road.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

(83)

Cypher (M/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— S. of S. for Foreign Affairs, LONDON

To:—H.M. Minister, AMMAN

Despatched 29.4.48 (22.25)

Received 29.4.48 (22.30)

No. 268 of 29th April, 1948.

SECRET.

Addressed to Amman telegram No. 268 of April 29th repeated for information B.M.E.O., Cairo. Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Cairo.

On April 27th the Transjordan Minister called and handed me a message from King Abdullah urging that British troops should remain in occupation and protection of Jerusalem, NAZARETH and BETHLEHEM (1) until May 15th.

2. The message also asked us to make available to Transjordan a three months supply of certain oil products for civil use only to be imported from Abadan to AQABA(1). At the end of three months the I.P.C. would have made adequate arrangements for the supply of petrol (1) from (1) Iraq.

3. The Transjordan Minister also asked for export licences to be granted for two more (1) RAPIDES and four PROCTORS all for civil purposes.

4. I undertook to look into all these questions urgently.

Ext. put on File N.S/1060/Ist.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T) (S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher (M/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S. of S. Foreign Office, LONDON. To :— H.M. Minister, Amman.

Despatched 29.4.48 (21.30) Received 29.4.48 (22.30)

No. 269 of 29th April, 1948.

SECRET.

Addressed to Amman telegram No.269 of April 29th repeated for information to B.M.E.O., Cairo, Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Cairo.

My immediately preceding telegram.

The position is as follows: JERUSALEM.
It has already been arranged that British troops shall remain there until May 15th NAZARETH (i) and BETHLEHEM. (i) There have never been British garrisons there and it would not be practicable at this stage in the evacuations to send garrisons there now.

2. If you think it likely that information about Nazareth and Bethlehem may cause King Abdullah to attempt to send the Arab Legion there before May 15th you may consider it advisable to delay replying to the King's message on the lines of my preceding para. for a few days. I shall not be replying to the Transjordan Minister here until I am in a position to answer all questions raised by him in his interview.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To* :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 30/4/48 (20.00) Received 1/5/48 (08.00)

No. 278 of 30th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
RESTRICTED. (1)

GIANT.

Following received from UKDEL New York telegram No.1310 of April 29th - Begins.

Repeated for information to Jerusalem, Washington.

PALESTINE.

Following telegram has been received by the Secretary-General from the Consular Commission. - Begins.

The members of the Commission(1) received their instructions at noon April 26th and met the same afternoon. The next meeting of April 27th when the technical aspects of the Commission's work (? was omitted) discussed. (2 mut.gps.) possibilities of telegraphic communications particularly with the Security Council recognised and (2 gps.undec.) decided. The Commission recommended that the Security Council should draw the attention of the British delegation (? to omitted) this point. The meeting of Arab and Jewish representatives was scheduled for the afternoon. The Representatives of the Jewish Agency met while the representative of the Arab Higher Committee Jerusalem AHMED HILMI Pasha declined on the grounds that he was not entitled to speak on behalf of the Arab Higher Committee. Immediate action from the Security Council desirable to (~~Sic~~ sic - [possibly means]) "responsible Arab representatives to meet the Commission." The information of various sources indicate(1)s the Transjordan Parliament declared general mobilisation and the forces are expected to march into Palestine.

Iraqi troops reported (~~Sic~~ sic - possibly means) "joining the

Transjordan/...2

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

Transjordan troops". Commission(1) (gp.undec.) warning telegram to King Abdullah is sent in clear ends.

2. At the(1) private meeting of the security Council on April 29th the French representative suggested that the text of the telegram was clear enough to justify the Council in asking the representative of the Arab Higher Committee here to arrange for an Arab representative to participate in the discussions in Jerusalem. The Syrian representative said that the representative of the Arab Higher Committee had no authority to nominate anyone, but that he could no doubt telegraph to the Arab Higher Committee asking that a representative be made available.

3. PARODI also raised the question whether in view of the possibility that the Arab States might shortly(1) intervene with armed forces, the Security Council should not address a(1) warning to the Arab Governments. The Syrian representative maintained that so long as(1) the United Kingdom Mandate continued it was not for the Security Council to act until the Mandatory Government asked it to do so. ~~Exxxx~~ In any case the Arab States would take no action until they had seen what decision the General Assembly on the Palestine(1) troubles was to be. In the circumstances the Council would not be justified in sending a warning. I informed the Council that H.M.G. in the United Kingdom had made strong representations in the Arab capitals including Amman against any military(1) action on the part of the Arab States.

4. As regards the difficulties of telegraphic communication between the Consular commission and the Security Council I undertook to ask the High Commissioner(1) Jerusalem to take(1) every measure open to him to facilitate transmission of the messages.

PW.

(JS/HIM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

86

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :—S. of S. Foreign Office, LONDON. *To* :—H.M. Minister, AMMAN

Despatched 30.4.48 (17.37) Received 30.4.48 (17.35)

No. 279 of 30th April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Cairo telegram No.575 of April 30th Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda (1), Amman, B.M.E.O. repeated for information to Jerusalem, Ukdel New York, Washington.

New York Delegation telegram No.1310 to me.

Please represent urgently to the Government of the country to which you are accredited and to AZZAM Pasha if you are in touch with him the desirability of fully qualified Arab representative being available immediately to enter into discussions with the Security Council in Jerusalem.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher (M/OTP)

~~Code~~ x

~~Clear~~ x

From:— S. of S. Foreign Office LONDON.

To:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 29.4.48 (22.10) Received 29.4.48 (22.30)

No. 265 of 29th April, 1948.

SECRET.

Following received from Washington telegram No.2027 of April 28th.

Begins. Repeated for information to Ukdel New York, B.M.E.O., Cairo, Damascus, Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Cairo, Baghdad, Jerusalem.

Your telegram No.4609 to Jerusalem.

As MARSHALL was spending the day at CAPITOL and could not receive me until tomorrow I saw LOVETT today.

(1) He said that the United States delegation at Lake Success was doing its utmost to get the Jewish and Arab agreement to a truce and had made some progress. The Jews had agreed. On the other hand the Arab delegations's attitude had been less cooperative in that they had gone no further than assenting last night to a truce in respect of the old walled city. This did not satisfy the Americans who were insisting upon a truce to cover the whole of Jerusalem. The Arabs had telegraphed for fresh instructions.

3. He did not think it possible for United States Government to do more than was already being done with the Jews upon whom sustained pressure was being kept.

He hoped /

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

He hoped you would be willing to put pressure on the Arabs in particular upon Abdullah ~~whose~~ about whose military intentions ~~we have (1) said~~. much was being (1) said.

4. I was able to show him Jerusalem telegram No. 1170 to Colonial Office which went some way to allay his fears and he admitted (1) he had nothing from the American representative in (1) Jerusalem to suggest Abdullah was in fact on the war path. I told him we were making every effort to keep the Arabs quiet and that fresh instructions in this sense have been sent to His Majesty's Representatives in the Arab states (1). On the occasion he persisted in his request that in exchange for the present American pressure on the Jews you would keep up parallel pressure on the Arabs.

[signature]

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T).

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher (M/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clair~~

From :- S. of S. for Foreign Affairs LONDON. To: H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 30.4.48 (18.55) Received 1.5.48 (10.40)

No. 274 of 30th April, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Following received from Ukdel New York telegram No.1304 of April 29th repeated for information to B.M.E.O., Cairo, Damascus, Cairo, Beirut, Amman, Jedda, Baghdad, Jerusalem, Washington. Begins.

GIANT.

Washington telegram No.2027 para 2 PALESTINE.

LOVETT'S account of the progress of the truce talks is misleading. There are two sets of truce (mut. gr) negotiations in progress.

(a) The truce commission appointed by the Security Council is working both in Jerusalem and informally here at a truce for the whole of Palestine.

(b) [?two] The Trusteeship Council is endeavouring to secure a truce for Jerusalem.

2. The Arabs have agreed to a truce for the old city of Jerusalem and a final reply is now awaited from the Jewish Agency whose attitude is so far favourable. The Arab Higher Committee have taken the position that a truce covering the entire Jerusalem municipal area is not practicable unless the truce extends to the whole country. The Jewish Agency consider it would be practicable if it included the approaches to the

city /

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

city necessary for the maintenance of supplies.

3. So far as the truce negotiations for the whole of Palestine are concerned, the Arab delegates here are cooperating in the search for a formula. On the other hand Silver ~~(sic)~~ on behalf of the Jewish Agency issued last night the statement contained in my immediately preceding telegram. We are told by the Agency that this statement was occasioned by an optimistic reference to the possibility of a truce made yesterday by MARSHALL at a press conference.

F.O. Repeat BMEO Cairo, Cairo, Damascus, Beirut, Amman & Baghdad as my tels. 19, 2, 2, 3, 3, 2 respectively.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T) (S/1014/48) **TELEGRAM.**

Cypher (M/OTP)

Code x

Clear x

From :— S. of S. Foreign Office LONDON. *To* :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 1.5.48 (02.45) Received 1.5.48 (08.00)

No. 283 of 30th April, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL. (1)

Addressed to Cairo telegram No.581 of April 30th and to Baghdad, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus repeated for information to B.M.E.O., Amman, Washington and Ukdel New York.

My telegram No.282 to Amman.

You should reinforce your previous representations to the Government to which you are accredited (~~gr. undec.~~) giving them an urgent and serious warning on the lines [TW] by paras 2, 3, and (1) 4 of my telegram under reference ~~(Brackets omitted)~~.

2. I am repeating to you separately the telegram to the High Commissioner in reply to a (1) telegram from him asking what policy he should adopt with regard to the Arab incursions.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T) (S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M. Ambassador, Baghdad.

To :— H.M. Minister, Amman.

Despatched 1.5.48 (17.40) Received 1.5.48.

No. 62 of 1st. May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.471 of May 1st. repeated for information to Amman, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Cairo, B.M.E.O., Washington, Ukdel New York and Jerusalem.

Your telegrams Nos.575 and 581 to Cairo.

I spoke as instructed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning, laying particular stress on para 2 of your telegrm No.282 to Amman. He assured me that there was no present intention of sending Arab forces into Palestine before the 15th of May. In his view the Arab Governments should conduct their policy on every subject and in every way in peace and harmony with His +Majesty's Government. The Iraqi Government had no desire to embarrass the British authorities in Palestine in any way and wished above all to avoid clashes with British ~~troops~~ forces, but in the face of Jewish aggression and, he tried to add, but I would not allow him, the discrimination of the British authorities, the Arab states might feel bound to act (1). These were his personal views; he would report my representations immedidately to the Cabinet.

Foreign Office please pass to Ukdel and Washington as my telegrams Nos.14 and 30 respectively.

VPW.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

MESSAGE FORM

(91)

W/T Office Serial No. 591

Cipher Office Serial No. (1735)

Date 30/4

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
PRO A		1321
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
PRO London		228

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

27530 Grnt. Following received from DELNEWYORK tel no 1305 of 29/4 repeated BMEO Cairo damascus beirut amman jedda bagdad jerusalem and washington. begins. MIPT. Following is text of statement. Begins. The Jewish agency for Palestine finds it necessary to restate in a few sentences its attitude on the present stage of the committees disc-ussions. We have already expressed the opposition the Jewish agency to any plan of trusteeship system is quite inapplicable to Palestine that it is particularly incongruous to envisage a trusteeship at the present time, when a process of actual partition is far advanced and that any deferment of the establishment of a Jewish government In the Jewish state are a, beyond the termination of the mandate, would be a prejudice to the rights and position of the Jewish

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Ciph[illegible]e Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority

2

people. I feel it is my duty
to restate the position which
we stated in the security council,
namely, that no proposals of
trusteeship, and no proposals
of truce which would prejudice
or postpone the exercise of
Jewish rights under the november
29th resolution can be accepted
by the Jewish agency or the
people of palestine. That remains
our position today. Ends
To please repeat to BMEO, Cairo.
embassy cairo, damascus,
Beirut. Amman. Jedda, Bagdad.
and Jerusalem as my tels
nos 20, 37 3, 4, 2, 3, 3 and 346.
respectively. Bevin

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

(91)

W/T Office Serial No. 599

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date 30

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
PRO H. (13.00)		1100
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
PRO Cairo	5/1014/14	178

BRITISH LEGATION 30 APR 1948 AMMAN

Special Instructions

Indication of Priority: Immediate

OH329 . Addressed FO no 530
of 29th repeated for information to
BAGHDAD 200, BEIRUT 76, DAMASCUS
59, JERUSALEM 70, JEDDA 50,
AMMAN 43, WASHINGTON 18, UKDEL
NEW YORK 9 . Palestine . Commenting
on reports from its Beirut correspondent
that LEBANESE premier would leave
for Riad on April 25th to convey
to Ibn Saud text of an agreement
to permit Arab legion to enter
Palestine, EGYPTIAN newspaper
ZAMANE independent says that
it is understood that this
agreement, reached by arab
league at recent meetings in
Amman and Cairo, envisages
holding of plebescite in Palestine
after cessation of hostilities and
provides that all states concerned
should respect the arab league
covenant which precludes any
ARAB state from expanding
its territory. Newspaper adds
comment that this agreement

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Cipher Office Serial No. .... Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
2	

1	explaines the	objections	of EGYPT		4
2	and saudi	arabia to	king		8
3	ABDULLAH'S	scheme for	greater		12
4	syria .	FO please	pass to		16
5	washington	and UKDEL	NEW YORK		20
6	as my	tels 18	and 9	CAMPBELL	24
7					28
8					32
9					36
10					40
11					44
12					48
13					52
14					56
15					60
16					64
17					68
18					72
19					76
20					80
21					84
22					88
23					92
24					96
25					100

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

2000 2/5 92

Received at Amman وصلت مكتب Date 2 / 5 / 4 بتاريخ الساعة / الدقيقة H M وقت الوصول 18 / 38 Radio قبلها المامور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM B. GOVT v. radio تعليمات مصلحية	خاتم التاريخ 22.00

13 الساعة H. 40 الدقيقة M. 2/5 اودعت بتاريخ Date 78 الكلمات Words 207 الرقم الاصلي Original No. Jerusalem الاشارة Origin

قبل الظهر a. m.
بعد p. m.

To Prodrome Amman الى

1226 to secretary of state your telegram 1769 following for foreign office repeated beyrouth for beamont damascus amman and cairo suggest you expedite delivery of stores by air freight to egypt and by

From من

41

ب ه ع

Received at .... وصلت مكتب	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن	خاتم التاريخ
D........ بتاريخ	يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية	
الساعة H — الدقيقة M — وقت الوصول	THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM	
قبلها المأمور	تعليمات مصلحية	

الساعة H.	الدقيقة M.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a. m. / بعد p. m.		11	207			

To .... الى

raf from egypt to Kulundia But
they should not repeat not arrive
Kulundia later than 12 th may
latest stop alternatively haifa or
amman but communication between
these places and Jerusalem Cannot

From .... من

ب هـ ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب

D........ بتاريخ

وقت الوصول

الساعة H	الدقيقة M

قبلها المأمور

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

تعليمات مصلحية

خاتم التاريخ

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الاصلي Original No	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الدقيقة M.	الساعة H.
			207			

111

قبل الظهر a. m.

بعد p. m.

To. الى

in Present circumstances be acted upon after the termination of the mandate —

Highcoma

From .... من

(W/T) (S/1014/48) TELEGRAM. (93)

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— Memin, CAIRO To :- H.M. Minister, AMMAN

Despatched 28.4.48 (23.02) Received 29.4.48 (06.30)

No. 31 of 28Th April, 1948.

RESTRICTED.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.142 of April 28th repeated for information to Jerusalem, Beirut, Damascus, Amman (1), Baghdad, Jedda, Washington, Ukdel New York.

My despatch No.31/23/3 March 4th copied to Jerusalem only: PALESTINE.

I have just received visit from AZZAM Pasha who came to the draw the attention of His Majesty's Government to the situation in Jaffa. He reminded me of the letter addressed to him on February 16th by Brigadier Clayton which transmitted a reply to his request (that - mutil) some troops of the Arab Legion might be sent to Jaffa to prevent an ultimate Jewish (1)coup. Brigadier Clayton informed him in accordance with information (1) received from High Commissioner Jerusalem that it was not possible to station the Arab Legion units in Jaffa but there were two companies of British troops stationed (1) there which should allay the fears of the inhabitants.

2. Azzam said that he is now receiving hourly appeals for help from (1) the inhabitants (1) of Jaffa where according to him strong attack by the IRGUN is in progress. He accordingly renewed the request that units (1) of the Arab Legion might be permitted to protect the city until May 15th.

-----

(138)

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

(94)

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, BAGHDAD. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 27/4/48 (19.25) Received 28/4/48 (05.30)

No. 57 of 27th April, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.453 of April 27th.
Repeated for information B.M.E.O., Jerusalem, Amman, Damascus, Beirut, UKDEL New York and Jedda.

PALESTINE.

Anti British events in Palestine are having inevitable and dangerous reaction here. All our Iraqi friends say public opinion is becoming increasingly Anti British and that this feeling is shared by all responsible opinion as well. The main line is that British authorities are to blame for the unfortunate situation in which the Arabs find themselves. The argument is that the Jews acquire their present superiority in arms and equipment, including armoured cars, under the British Mandate. The British authorities, if they did not supply this equipment, are guilty of having allowed the Jews to acquire it. The British should now help the Arabs in order to redress the balance. The criticism in regard to Haifa is that we abandoned the town without warning the Arab Governments. Our friend pointed out that the abandonment of Jaffa or Lydda to the Jews would lead to very serious trouble.

2. We have done our best with the information at our disposal and on the basis of the telegrams from the Haifa Commissioner at Jerusalem to counter the above arguments and keep the Iraqi(1) authorities(1) informed of the true picture but the Arabs are so accustomed to blaming someone else for the(1) results of their own FECKLESSNESS and admitted(1) arrogance(1) together that our remarks have I regret to say little effect. The Arabs know in their heart of hearts that they are themselves largely to blame and indeed some newspapers have admitted this but this makes them(1) all the more ready to throw the blame(1) on to us.

3/...2

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

3. If between now and May 15th it is possible to inform the Iraqi Government in advance of any important decisions which are likely to be taken internally in Palestine I think this might help. Many observers here are in grave fear of a pogrom and this risk will(1) continue even after May 15th. In the present state of feeling about Palestine the Police could not be relied on to defend helpless(1) persons and refugees(1).(1) If a pogrom were to begin in Baghdad British subjects would certainly be in danger.

4. The Iraqi Government is already being pressed to order I.P.C. to stop pumping oil to Haifa. This pressure must be expected to increase if the Arabs suffer further reverses.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York as my telegram No.9.

(PW/JFS/HIM).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(12.30) 8.

ب.ه. ٤

(95)

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

Received at وصلت مكتب A.M.

Date بتاريخ 1/5

وقت الوصول

الساعة h. 10 الدقيقة m. 50

قبلها المأمور

تعليمات مصلحية B. 60 U.T.

BRITISH ... AMMAN TELEGRAPHS ... MY 48

خاتم التاريخ

الاشارة	المصدر Origin	الرقم الاصلي Original No.	الكلمات Words	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.
	Jerusalem		60	155/152 30/4	1900	

قبل الظهر a. m.
بعد p. m.

To Immediate prodrome Amman الى

ADDRESSED to secretary of state 1208 Repeated to washington 311 Brackets for ukcd 1304 close Brackets damascus 1303 remin cairo 77 Brackets for ambassador and C in C close Brackets Amman 1305

From Repeated saving to aden comma من

X5

ب.ه. ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب

Date .... بتاريخ

الساعة الدقيقة وقت الوصول
h. m

.... قبلها المأمور

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

تعليمات مصلحية

خاتم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No.	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a. m. / بعد p. m.				60		

II

To Beirut comma British consul aleppo comma Jeddah stop Begins incidents twenty ninth of april stop one Jaff stop cease fire order being observed stop town quiet throughtout the night of twentyninth and thirtieth of april stop no question of further i Z L infiltration stop الى

From من

ب.ه. ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب Date .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المأمور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM تعليمات مصلحية

خاتم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No.	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a. m. / بعد p. m.			~~111~~			

To الى

arab moral ~~up~~ Reported High stop meeting arranged for nine thirty a ~~M~~ ~~now~~ thirtie of april to discuss truce in whole of Jaffa stop np2 Jewish forces occupied Jisr el majamie police post on Twenty eighth of april and fired on arab ~~fo~~ legion on transjordan end of bridge killing one

From من

legionary. stop fire was returned and

ب.هـ.٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب Date .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m وقت الوصول .... قبلها المأمور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM .... تعليمات مصلحية	ختم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No.	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهور a. m. بعد p. m.						

To .... الى

Locality now reported quiet stop np 3 no further information stop [illegible]

[illegible signature]

From .... من

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 608

Ciph[redacted]ce Serial No.

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

5/5/48

Date 1/5

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman		1420
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
Cairo		199

Special Instructions: 59 JQ JCP

Indication of Priority

04730 Addressed to FO No 536 30 April repted for info to Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus Jerusalem Jedda and Amman deL New York and Washington palestine O Press reports that on april 29th RECTOR OF AL AZHAR called on egyptian prime minister and chief of royal cabinet to convey to them following decisions taken by ULEMA on april 26th regarding palestine O (A) The liberation of Palestine is a religious duty for all moslems without exception, great and small O The ISLAMIC and ARAB governments should without delay take effective and radical measures, military or otherwise, and every moslem and every arab should help the governments to realise this liberation O (B) The islamic and arab govts should give asylum to arab refugees from Palestine O The arab and

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No.

Cipher Office Serial No. Date

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
2	

Islamic peoples should obey the govts in all matters relating to this O It is a duty for every moslem and every arab O

(c) These decisions are to be communicated to all islamic govts and to arab league O

2 O above decisions are followed by quotations from the KORAN about merits of fighting for GOD O FO pass to UKDEL NEW YORK and Washington as my tels 12 and 11 respectively

O Campbell

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(97)

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 607

Cipher Office Serial No.

R 2/5 Date 1/5

(95/45)

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman		1555
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
Cairo	5/1014/48	92

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
59 Iq Icl	I/B

1	04630 OPEN added FO 534	4
2	of 30/4 rptd for info Amman, Baghdad,	8
3	Beirut, Jerusalem, Jedda, Damascus,	12
4	W'ton and UKDEL New York ⊙ Cptel 266	16
5	to Amman ⊙ Palestine "AHRAM"	20
6	april 30 reports that when asked	24
7	by its correspondent at Amman	28
8	when he would go into battle	32
9	King Abdullah replied quote the	36
10	date on which the British mandate	40
11	ends for I do not wish to clash	44
12	with the British forces unquote ⊙	48
13	FO please pass W'ton and UKDEL	52
14	New York as my tels Nos 20 and	56
15	11 respectively ⊙ Campbell	60
16		64
17		68
18		72
19		76
20		80
21		84
22		88
23		92
24		96
25		100

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

MESSAGE FORM

(98)

W/T Office Serial No. 619

Cipher Office Serial No.

(25.45)

R Date 1/5

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman	5/1014/48	8: 2030
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
Beirut		58

BRITISH LEGATION * AMMAN *

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
59 K8 JA	Most Immediate.

04201 O added FO 318 repltd
for info to Cairo Damascus
Jerusalem Memin Cairo Baghdad
Amman Jedda W'ton UKDEL
New York O Yrtel 590 to Cairo
Minister for FA has person-
ally assured me that report
as far as LEBANESE forces
are concerned is completely
unfounded HMMIN London
ONLY Please pass to W'ton
UKDEL New York as mytels
15 + 16 respectively
Cairo only please pass
BMEO O

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48½ TELEGRAM.

99

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To* :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 30/4/48 (11.25) Received 30/4/48 (11.30)

No. Waste 273 of 30th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Following received from Palestine - Begins.

Addressed to Amman telegram No.1289 of April 29th.
Repeated to Secretary of State, Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Cairo, B.M.E.O. Cairo, Washington and UKDEL New York.

I have been informed to-day that the settlement of GESHER Nr.JISREL MAJAMI has been attacked by the Arab Legion using 25 pounders.(1) I have not yet had this confirmed but it seems true.

2. As you will know by(1) the intervention of British troops and the Air Force and threats of using the air against TELAVIV, Jaffa has just been saved from being overrun by Jews who(1) asked for a truce at 14.00 to-day and have gone back to their original position.

3. I trust you will point out (? gp.omitted) Majesty if the information about Gesher is true, or in similar circumstances, in what a difficult position he is placing me.(1) The Jews are bound to ask for the same protection if it is given to the Arabs in Jaffa and in equity it is difficult to find an excuse for not giving it to them as long as the mandate (? gp.omitted) and we have to do what we can to prevent violence. He may no doubt mention DEIR YASSIN and Haifa.(1) On these two occasions we were not MILITARILY in a position to act (much(1) to my personal regret, but for your own information we are being reinforced and(1) I hope will be able to act more (widely - Sic) in future if we(1) (? think it omitted) necessary. You will no doubt realise that I am in no way uttering a threat and I am sure you will be able to explain the matter in such a way that no threat will be(1) made.

(HLM/PW/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

99A

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S. of S. Foreign Office LONDON. To :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 30.4.48 Received 1.5.48 (02.15)

No. 282 of 30th April, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Amman telegram No.282 of April 30th repeated for information to Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Cairo, B.M.E.O., Washington, Ukdel New York and Jerusalem.

Jerusalem telegram No.1289 to you.

This incident is no doubt the same as referred to in your telegram No.259. If so, I accept the fact (1) that the Arab Legion acted under Jewish provocation. Nevertheless you should at once speak to King Abdullah on the following lines.

2. Our determined and effective intervention at Jaffa (? has omitted) perhaps shown the Arabs that we are now both able and willing to deal with the major breaches of the peace in Palestine with all the resources at our disposal. Our action on these lines must however be impartial i.e. we must repress disorder or aggression to the best of our ability from whatever source is comes. We are bound therefore to take the most serious view of any attack on Palestine territory from beyond the frontier.

3. Apart from this evident duty which we shall endeavour to fulfil with all (1) the means in our power(1) until May 15th we would very deeply regret (1) any

action

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of - Page 2 -

action which might be taken by the Arabs or by Jews whooh would it make it more difficult to secure agreement on a truce for Jerusalem for which the prospects now seem rather brighter and which we would hope might be the prelude to a more satisfactory state of affairs for the whole country.

4. If as seems likely to have been the case in the JISR EL MEJAMI incident the Arab States are provoked by Jewish action (1) in Palestine the correct couese is not to retaliate by aggression against Palestine territory but :

(A) immediately to inform the High Commissioner in order that he may consider immediate action against the Jews who may be responsible in Palestine and

(B) to inform the Security Council in New York of the incident and ask them to investigate the Jewish action and take measures to stop it. This would greatly strengthen the Arab position internationally and would (2) (if) the facts were substantiated provide them with the most useful kind of publicity.

I put this point to the Transjordan Minister to-day.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

MESSAGE FORM

(100)

W/T Office Serial No. 623

Cipher Office Serial No. 5

Date 2/5

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
PRO A.	(1.40)	0930
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
PRO London	5/1014/KG	80

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
	Most Immediate

WASTE 29402 Following received from Palestine telegram no '221' of may 1 st addressed to S.of S. and amman (tel no 1320) repeated beirut damascus cairo bagdad jedda washington UKDEL new york begins.

Reference to your most immediate telegram no 1798 of 14 may nothing known here of crossing of palestine frontier by egyptian army.

2. N A jewish agency report that 6 bands containing men in syrian uniform crossed from dei in huleh area is being investigated ends

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

0206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

Received at .... وصلت مكتب

D[illegible] 2/5 بتاريخ

السـاعة الدقيقة وقت الوصول

h. 12 00 m.

قبلها المأمور

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

تعليمات مصلحية By [illegible]

خاتم التاريخ

الساعة	الدقيقة	اودعت بتاريخ	الكلمات	الرقم الاصلي	المصدر	اشارة
h. 02	m. 51	Date 2/5	Words 81	Original No. 174	Origin London	

قبل الظهر a. m.

بعد p. m.

To Most Immediate [illegible] ل

29402 following received from [illegible] telegram no 1221 of may 1st addressed to [illegible] of [illegible] and [illegible] (telno 132 repeated beirut damascus [illegible] cairo

From baghdad jedda washington dc and

٤٥

Received at .... وصلت مكتب D .... بتاريخ الساعة h. الدقيقة m. وقت الوصول .... قبلها المأمور	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM .... تعليمات مصلحية	خاتم التاريخ

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No.	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a. m. بعد p. m.		- 2 -				

To الى

ukel newyork begins reference your most immediate telegram no 1773 of 1st may nothing known here of crossing of palestine frontier by egyptian army 2 a jewish agency report that tanks containing men in syrian uniforms crossed frontier in huleh area is being investigated bevin

From من

101

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 618

Cipher Office Serial No. (85.45)

Date 1/5

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

To: Amman	TIME OF ORIGIN 5/1014/48	TIME OF RECEIPT 1940
From: London	Originators No.	Number of Groups 93

Special Instructions: ICP

Indication of Priority

29201 added CAIRO tel No 590 of 1/5 and to Beirut and Damascus repeated for info Jerusalem, BMEO Baghdad, Amman, Jedda, Wton UKDEL New York ⊙ Para ⊙ EVENING Standard this evening states that (1) According to an unofficial arab source in Cairo the egyptian army crossed the Palestine border at midnight ⊙ (2) According to haganah Syrian and lebanese armoured forces invaded northern Palestine at dawn today and by mid-morning were attacking the Jewish settlements of Dafne Ramot Naftali and Dan ⊙ Para 2 ⊙ Please report by most immediate telegram what truth there is in these reports ⊙ Bevin

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(8)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher (M/OTP)

~~Code~~x

~~Clear~~xxxx

From :— H. M. Minister, DAMASCUS *To :—* H.M. Minister, AMMAN

Despatched 1.5.48 (22.10) Received 2.5.48 (05.45)

No. 54 of 1st. May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.229 repeated to Cairo, Baghdad, Jedda, (1), Beirut, Memin, Amman, Washington, U.K. (1) Del New York.

SECRET.

Your telegram No.581 to (2) Cairo.

I have spoken to the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs and he wrote down full details of the text of what I said undertaking to inform (1) the President.

2. With regard to action (a) suggested para 4 of your telegram No.282 to Amman he said the Jews were at the moment redoubling their aggression of Jerusalem and that any action (1) taken by the Arabs was in self defence. With regard to action (b) he remarked that the Syrian representative of the Security Council was never ceasing to (1) draw the Council's (1) attention to the situation but nothing happened.

3. When the Minister reverted to what had happened at Haifa I drew his attention to Jaffa and also spoke of the action taken at (gr. undec) s Hill Acre and at Sheikh JARRAH in Jerusalem.

4. Both at the beginning and end of the conversation I said that I was giving serious warning.

(London only) F.O. please pass to Ukdel and Washington as my telegrams 30 and 23 respectively. (Cairo only) pass B.M.E.O. as my telegram 98.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

183

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:*— F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 1.5.48 (17.25) ~~Received~~

No. 270 of 1.5.48

IMMEDIATE

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.270 of May 1st. repeated for information to :

Baghdad	No.43
Beirut	No.31
Cairo	No.47
Damascus	No.31
Jedda	No.22
B.M.E.O.	No.36
Jerusalem	No.40

SECRET.

PALESTINE.

81 83 84 82

Your telegrams Nos.263, 268, 269 and 276.

1. From several remarks made to me by the Arab leaders here during the last few days there seems to be a general belief current that we would let Jerusalem fall into Jewish hands before the end of the Mandate. This was confirmed by Baghdad's telegram to you No.467 (of 30.4.48). The existence of the belief was the principal cause of the urge to intervene before the 15th of May as no Moslem can contemplate the Holy Places falling into Jewish hands. Even the Prime Minister of Transjordan who is by far the steadiest and most sensible Arab here gets excited on that subject.

2. In the circumstances I decided to impress upon the King and the Prime Minister this morning that the Mandate would not be terminated before the 15th of May and that a British garrison would remain in Jerusalem

until /

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From:— *To:—*

Despatched Received

No. of - Page 2 -

until that date.

I explained that Bethlehem had always been covered from Jerusalem and I mentioend that a detachment of British troops would be stationed at Nazareth. The King's relief was so great that he embraced me.

3. I also took the opportunity of suggesting that all energies should now be directed to securing a truce over Jerusalem as a whole. They all concurred in this view. As regards abstaining from action before the 15th of May, the King, Prime Minister and Azzam said this morning that this would probably be possible providing Jerusalem was safeguarded from Jewish domination.

I spoke to all three together in strong terms of the inadvisability of intervening before the end of the Mandate.

Copy to:- S/1027/48.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

104

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:*— F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 1.5.48 (15.50) ~~Received~~

No. 271 of 1.5.48.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.271 of May 1st. repeated for information to :

Ukdel New York	No.20
Washington	No.13
Baghdad	No.44
Beirut	No.33
Cairo	No.48
Damascus	No.32
Jedda	No.23
B.M.E.O.	No.37
Jerusalem	No.41

CONFIDENTIAL.

PALESTINE TRUCE.

Your telegram No.575 (of 30.4.48) to Cairo.

I have delivered the message to the Transjordan Government and to Azzam this morning. The matter is now being considered by the Arab leaders here.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

H M W (105)

Cypher (ID/OTP)

Code x

Clear x

T.O.
Sec.

13 Dr.
2nd Sec.

From :— Highcoma, JERUSALEM. *To* :—H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 29.4.48 (19.10) Received 30.4.48 (11.40)

No. 1286 of 29.4.48

Addressed to Amman No. 1286 repeated to Secretary of State No. 1191.

In view of the inevitable delay (1) of Saving telegrams (1) and (1) since developments in Transjordan especially at the present time are (1) of such extreme interest to this country I should be grateful if you would telegraph to me direct on any matter of impotance affecting Palestine.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48) **TELEGRAM.**

106

Cypher (M/OTP)

~~Codex~~

~~Clearx~~

From:— S. of S. Foreign Office LONDON. *To:*—H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 1.5.48 (21.05) Received 2.5.48 (05.45)

No. 286 of 1st. May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.
GIANT.

Addressed to Cairo telegram No.588 of May 1st. Baghdad, Amman, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus, repeated for information to B.M.E.O., Washington, Ukdel New York.

107

Jerusalem telegram No.1306 to Ukdel New York.

Please take action with the Government to which you are accredited and with AZZAM Pasha if available, in support of the action taken by the High Commissioner in Jerusalem and recommended by him to the Ukdel. We do not want to take sides in the controversy about the area of the truce for Jerusalem but in the present military circumstances the High Commissioner is clearly right in suggesting that it is to the Arabs advantage to accept a large area and you should press them to do this both on these grounds and on the grounds that they will greatly improve their position with public opinion internationally if they adopt a reasonable attitude on this question. They can easily do this without any prejudice to the eventual settlement.

2. You can indicate in support of this argument that while we are as anxious to stop major fighting in Jerusalem as elsewhere we are not in such a strong position militarily to do so there as at Jaffa. The Arabs should not rely on us to save them from the results of their own intransigeance.

3. You /

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

86

3. You should also use these arguments to reinforce the suggestion in my telegram No.575 to Cairo.

Copy to:- S/1027/48.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

(107)

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S. of S. Foreign Office, LONDON. *To* :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 1.5.48 (21.23) Received 2.5.48 (05.45)

No. 287 of 1st. May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Cairo, Baghdad, Amman, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus, B.M.E.O.

TOP SECRET.

Following received from Jerusalem addressed to Ukdel New York telegram No. 1306 of May 1st. repeated for information to Secretary of State. BEGINS.

There has been a 24 hour battle between the Arabs and Jews for the KATAMON area. Jerusalem which has terminated this evening in the occupation by the Jews of practically the whole of the area. The Arabs have asked the Military Commander to arrange a truce. In view of the fact that the Jews at Lake Success have been "TRUCIAL" (1) over the whole municipal area while the Arabs have not, I am attempting to make use of the Arabs request to persuade them to agree to a truce over the whole area. I should beglad if pressure could be brought to bear on JAMAL HUSSEINI and SHERTOK at Lake Success along the same lines. For your own information we have only enough troops (1) in Jerusalem to intervene when our own communications are threatened and hints cannot always stop those battles (1) outside the communications areas quite apart from the undesirability of using artillery and air in Jerusalem. Furthermore it is now clear in this typical house to house fighting the Jews win every time. There seems therefore every advantage to accept the proposal. They will no doubt be counting upon the intervention of the Arab states but I must assume diplomatic pressure by

His /

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

His Majesty's Government and the Security Council will prevent this happening anyway before we leave and in that case the Jews would have control of the communications through Jerusalem which includes the only inland north and south route in Palestine before they arrived.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

(108)

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:—* F.O. LONDON

Despatched 1.5.48 (12.33) ~~Received~~

No. 274 of 1st. May, 1948.

SECRET.

Following for Burrows.

1. During the last few days Amman has been a bedlam the like of which I have never yet experienced. I cannot attempt to record or report the numerous conversations which I have with the Arab leaders going over the same ground afains and again advocating caution, restraint and patience until the end of the Mandate etc. only to have all my work undone by desperate appeals for help from somewhere in Palestine or by the arrival of a new batch of refugees with new rumours. In this atmosphere it is difficult to speculate much about the future but the following may be of interest to you. I dislike indulging in prophesy and I am, therefore, not circulating this message to other posts.

2. It appears that apart from the Arab Legion the ergular forces which the Arab states feel able to put in the field will not repeat not be large. I gather that the first Iraqi contingent is unlikely to be reinforced to any extent and the Iraqi general here has already expressed doubts about its adequacy. In spite of the Syrian Prime Minister's offer to send all his army and gendarmerie, I gather that the Syrian contingent is unlikely to be much larger than that from Iraq, that is to say about brigade strength. The Lebonese contingent will be smaller.

Azzam says that /

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

Azzam says that Egypt willsend two mixed brigades now in Sinai about 7000 men in all. Saudi Arabia is not expected to send anyone.

Tge Arab leaderd realise that all this does not constitute a formidable force and when its shortcomings in maintenance services and the shortages of fuel and ammunition are taken into account it is obvious that the avowed objective, the conquest of all Palestine, is probably too difficult a task.

3. Bur for one thing I would anticipate that the Arab leaders would without serious fighting content themselves with consolidating the Arab areas of Palestine against further Jewish aggression. The one counter-attraction is Jerusalem which has hypnotyzed them all. They could resign themselves to an international control of Jerusalem indeed in their present mood they would almost welcome it but the idea of Jerusalem in Jewish hands drives them beyond reason. There is a real possibility that if no alternative scheme for Jerusalem has emerged by the end of the Mandate the Arab forces will all concentrate in an attempt to secure that city. The results would be quite unpredictable but it would certainly seriously prejudice the original and reasonable plan of a campaign with which Transjordan started. I am encouraging Glubb to propagand in favour of the following sequence. (a) a truce for Jerusalem, (b) occupation of the Arab areas by Transjordan alone or by other Arab states too, (c) talks direct with the Jews in search of a compromise.

4. Lastly / P.T.O.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

4. Lastly, as a matter of interest, the other leaders here told the King that while determined to send their armies into Palestine they had no intention of leaving U.N.O.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

109

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M. Minister, DAMASCUS *To:*— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 2.5.48 (11.28) Received 2.5.48 (11.30)

No. 56 of 1st. May, 1948.

101

IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.232 of May 1st.

Your telegram No.590 to Cairo.

The alleged invasion of Palestine.

I have just seen the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs who assures me that thereport of the invasion of northern Palestine is absolutely false. He had already heard the report (gr. undec.) described as part of the Jewish war of nerves. When I asked if the report could refer to volunteers crossing the frontier he said that no one had crossed.

F.O. please pass to Jerusalem, Washington, and Ukdel New York as my telegrams Nos.92, 15 and 32 respectively.

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. as my tel. No. 100.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

109A

Cypher (ID/OTP)

Gxxxx

Gxxxx

From :— H.M. Ambassador, CAIRO *To :—* H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 2.5.48 (11.47) Received 2.5.48 (11.50)

No. 49 of 1st. May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.
LIGHT.

101

Your telegram No.590: Movements of Egyptian Army.

General HQ (1) M.E.L.F. state that they have no knowledge of any movement of Egyptian units into (1) Palestine although about 1 Brigade is concentrated by (2) the frontier. I have spoken to the Minister for Foreign Affairs who has conveyed to me a formal and categorical denial from the Ministry of Defence to whom he personally referred my enquiry.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 577

Cipher Office Serial No.

111

Date 29/4

BRITISH LEGATION 30 APR 1948 AMMAN

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman	5/1024/48	1650
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups
Cairo.		260

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
59 JQZZ.	Immediate.

04229 Added to FO No 526 of April 29th repted for info to W'ton, UKDEL New York, Baghdad, Beirut, Jerusalem, Jedda, Damascus Amman ⊙ BMEO tel No 143 of 28th April Safety of holy places in Jerusalem ⊙ Arab league secretariat-general has issued communiqué stating that Arabs are prepared to accept any measures calculated to ensure safety of holy places inside walls of old city of Jerusalem and for the purpose they would be prepared to conclude a truce on the following lines. (A) The suspension of the conflict inside the city and the prohibition of any attack directed against the city or emanating from the outer city ⊙ (B) Secondly Arab and Jewish guards in the city would not repeat not be disarmed ⊙ (C) Thirdly, absolute respect for the status quo ante of the city ⊙ 2 ⊙ Communiqué continues that in their desire to safeguard other religious places on the Mount of Olives the Arabs would be disposed to extend that truce to those places ⊙

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. ....

Cipher [illegible] Serial No. ....

Date ....

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
From:	Originators No.	Number of Groups

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
2	

It concludes that the Arabs would have no objection to entrusting the guarding of the Holy places to a religious body ⊙ The league of Arab states would share in the creating of a guard unit charged with supervising the execution of the truce and with maintaining order in the vicinity of the holy places throughout Palestine ⊙ FO please pass Washington and UKDEL as my tels 17 and 8 ⊙ Campbell.

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

Cypher 1D/OTP TELEGRAM

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

8/1514/47 2/5/47 (111)

From :- BMEO Cairo To:- ~~Amman~~

Despatched 1900 29/4 Received 1910 29/4

No. 32 of 29/4

(93)

[—①—]
Confidential
[—①—]
Added to F O Tel No [①] 143 of April 28th
Repted Jerusalem, [①] UK Del New York, Wton, [—①—] Beirut
Damascus, Amman, [—1 ①—] Bagdad [—①—] Jedda Cairo

My tel No 142 [①] Palestine.

During conversation with AZZAM Pasha I informed him that I still had no reply from London to the questions reported in My tel No 137. I thought it possible however that you would be dealing with his main requests, viz his attitude to further infiltrations in the House of Commons today.

2/ I then [—①—] asked him if he was in a position to give me any infmn about the intentions of the Arab Govts as a result of [—①—] insistent meetings in Cairo he said [—①—] he could [—①—] only [—TW—] speak unofficially. He did not know whether the regular forces would be sent in but he emphasized the difficulty of the position in which all the Arab Govts were now finding themselves. [—①—] Their leaders in fact, [①] including [—①—] himself, would probably be assassinated if [—①—] they did nothing. Whether or not regular forces were sent in, infiltration would therefore certainly continue, and he [—1 ①—] was in fact arranging for two or three hundred North Africans now in Egypt to be sent across the southern border at once. I asked if they would attack Jewish colonies to which he replied in the negative [TW] they were not well enough armed. They would probably make [for 2] Jaffa. He emphasized that all the Arab [— sic] action in palestine were defensive and that it was the Jews who were everywhere taking the offensive even in the districts allotted to the

Arab/—

Arab state [—①—] by the U.N decision of Nov. 29th. [—①—] Their object obviously was to have created a fait accompli by May 15th. [—①—]

The Arab Govts were firmly determined to do so always to prevent this happening. He realized [—①—] that H.M.G would be bound to take the line in public that they would continue to resist incursions, but he hoped they would not send their troops to seek out INFILTRATORS. The latter for their part would continue to avoid clashes with British forces.

3. Brigadier CLAYTON (who was present) and I pointed out the embarrassing results both in the political and military sphere that might follow the despatch of regular Arab forces. To this he replied that the Jews were not only well armed already but able to import arms at will despite the embargo. He was very sceptical of the embargo on Jewish arms and [—①—] said the embargo worked only against the Arabs who were not even getting the arms [—①—] promised them under existing contracts. Indeed he seemed to think that this stoppage was the result of our communication last February (Your tel No 143 to Cairo of Jan 29th). I [gp undec] him of this suspicion and explained the purpose of that communication.

4. Azzam seems somewhat depressed. He said that the Americans were showing irritation with the Arabs and telling them that they must do something over Palestine without specifying [what] they must do. He was also depressed by the fact that Sir Alexander Cadogan had given the Security Council the gist of Sir A Cunningham's tel to the Colonial Office 1094.

5. Finally Azzam said he had received a visit from a QUAKER delegation which had suggested a truce in the walled city of Jerusalem which might be extended to any other holy places. Arrangements for observing the truce including the feeding of the inhabitants would be under the AEGIS of the leaders of various religions. Azzam said that he intended to inform the Quakers that the Arab League for their part would willingly accept such an arrangement [—①—] and even pay for it. [—①—] He thought it far better than the despatch of an international force. He expected to issue a communiqué on the subject in the immediate future.

FO please pass to Ukdel + Wton as my tels 29 and 31 respectively.

Cypher M/O7P ✓ TELEGRAM

~~Code~~

Clear

8/1074/48
7/8/48
112

From :- F O Sof S To:- Amman

Despatched 1730 30/4 Received 1735 30/4

No. 270 of 29/4

Mandate
Secret.

Addsd to Cairo Tel No 468 of April 29th
Tehran, Jedda, Benghazi, Bagdad, Tripoli
Beirut, Addis Ababa, ASMARA[@], Amman,
Khartoum, Basrah, Mosul, Damascus and
Aleppo.

The British Army in Palestine is being
[perpetually] accused in the Press of the Arab states
of intervening only to protect the Jews and of
leaving the Arabs to their fate. It is considered
that it might have unfavourable effect on Arab opinion,
[gp undec] momentum of events in Haifa calls
more stridently for immediate intervention
by regular Arab forces, if publicity could be
given in your territory to the action by our
forces against the Jewish offensive operations.

2 Recent examples which could profitably be publicised
are the incidents in the Sheik JARRAH quarter
of/...

of Jerusalem, the use by the British forces of 25 pounder guns against the Jews at Napoleons Hill Acre and the present operations in Jaffa where our troops are in action against the Jews who have been HARRYING the Arabs. No doubt other examples will follow.

3/ You should do your utmost to [—(1)—] draw the attention of the press in your territory to these examples of [—(1)—] intervention in favour of the Arabs

---

Cypher N/OTP ~~TELEGRAM~~

~~Code~~

Clear

5/1074/48
2/5/48
19 ... (113)

From :- FO (SofS) To:- ~~Amman~~

Despatched 1122 1/5 Received 1135 1/5

No. 280 of 30/4

Top Secret. [- 0 -]

Addsd to Wston tel N° 4706 of April 30th

Reptd for infmn Ukdel New York, Cairo, Bagdad Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Amman and BMEO.

My tel N° 1744 to New York Del: Conversation with the American Ambassador on Palestine.

I asked the U S Ambr to call on April 29th with reference to our discussion the previous day. I recalled my undertaking to use our [- 0 -] influence with the Arabs not to invade palestine provided the Jews side their provocation and attacks on the Arabs. I asked him whether he had any infmn from the U.S.G as to what steps had been taken not merely to bring ~~pressure to~~ pressure to [- 0 -] bear, but to cause the Jews to desist from their tactics. Jaffa which was an Arab city was being violently attacked by the Jews. It seemed unfair that pressure should be put on King Abdullah for example by means of the Truce Commissions telegram to him when apparently little was being done with reference to the Jews. I would on the other hand be willing to support the Truce Commissions message if I had infmn that the corresponding resolute action was being taken against the Jews.

2. I then gave Mr DOUGLAS a summary of the replies which had been received from the various Arab Govts to the [- 0 -] representations which we had made to them to urge restraint and moderation.

3/-

3/ I then [—①—] referred to your conversation with Mr. LOVETT reported in your tel 2027 and said that I feared [—①—] the U.S. Administration did not realize what the Jews were doing [①] in Palestine and how this would aff[ect] the whole position in the M.E. I called the attention of the U.S. Ambr to the appreciation of the Jewish attitude in [①] para 5 of Jerusalem tel. No [①] 1119 repted to you as tel No 292.

4/ I concluded by saying that while we had done all I had promised at our last interview we felt that the other Govts [—①—] figure that the same action was not being taken in regard to the Jews and that the only Govt which could do so with certainty and real effect was the U.S.G. It was not proper that they should be putting pressure upon us to take action [—①—] and leave it to us to try to get reason from the Arabs who were being aggressive, while apparently nothing at all was being done & in connection with the Jews. After all the present Jewish action was the direct outcome of the US policy and therefore we felt that it was they and they alone who could really remedy the situation

5/1074/48
2/57/48
(114)
18.4

Cypher ID/OTP

TELEGRAM

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :- Jerusalem High Comm To:- Amman

Despatched 1535/1/5 Received 1230/2

No. 1312 of

IMMEDIATE

Addressed to S.O.S. 1217 rptd Wh'ton 314 Ukdel
(Wh'ton please pass) 1311 BMEO Cairo 78, Amman 1312
Damascus 1313 Beirut 1314, Jedda 42, Baghdad 51
Top Secret
Begins.
Wherever the arabs are in contact with
the Jews their morale has practically collapsed
and we are finding increasing difficulty in
bolstering them up. Jaffa is rapidly emptying of
all its inhabitants and I am told IRAQUIS with
ALA. there are also threatening to leave.
The serious refugee problem has arisen
result of the Haifa and Jaffa engagement as a
are dealing with as we can which we
little doubt that the lack of food and but there is
shelter will in due course cause suffering.
2/ I am particularly concerned with the
fact that when we leave Jerusalem the
Jews will undoubtedly dominate it and I/We
fear we will be blamed again.

must repeat therefore the need for truce over the whole of Jerusalem is of extreme importance to us politically and not only [sic.] military. [(1)] All pressure is required to make the Arabs accept it. In their present situation it would be to there advantage.

3/ It may be of interest to you to know that the Arab in command in the KATAMON battle also left in the middle. The Arabs had been shooting at the Jews from this quarter for weeks and really brought the attack on themselves.

Cypher M/OTP TELEGRAM

Code

Clear

5/1074/48 2/5/48 120 34

(115)

From :- DAMASCUS Amb To:- AMMAN

Despatched 18.40. 2/5/48 Received 18.50 2/5/48

No. 58 of 2.5.48

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to F.O. tel. No 234 of May 2nd repeated for information to Cairo, Bagdad, Amman, Jeddah, Beirut, BMEO Washington, UKDEL New York.

NP Your tel. No 588 to Cairo.

NP I saw the Prime Minister this morning and expressed the hope [Syria (1)] would agree to the truce for the whole of Jerusalem rather than merely for the Old City. The Prime Minister said that he had been told in Amman yesterday that we should have [Brigade (ten?) 2 of] Jerusalem until May 15th for the purpose of looking after the situation. I said that even so it was [merely (1)] better that there should be a truce in the whole of the city so that our forces would not have to intervene on either side. [I did not say specifically we were less

Strong ~~[illegible]~~ militarily than in Jaffa although I realised (1) situation in (Lydda) was not identical] ⊙

WP. The P.M. went on to say that AZZAM Pasha and a [illegible] (1) Arab Higher Committee were to meet the Consular Commission at JERICHO this evening or tomorrow morning ⊙ He ~~[illegible]~~ thereupon telephoned to ~~applicable~~ to AZZAM at Amman and according to what he told me afterwards (1) communicated to Azzam the sense of my conversation ⊙ Azzam had replied that the matter would ~~be~~ be ~~[illegible]~~ discussed (1) ○

Cypher M/OTP TELEGRAM

S/1074/C
2/5/48
20 JU (116)

Code/
Clear

From :- F.O. S.O.K. To:- Amman

Despatched 11.25 2/5/48 Received 11.45 2/5/48

No. 295 of 2/5/48

IMPORTANT

CONFIDENTIAL (o)

The following sent to Palestine tel No 1769 of May 1st [for BEAUMONT from F.O.] and addressed to Damascus, (unded) Cairo, (unded), (o) agi

WP As (?) the local situation develops (?) unable to continue with delivery of stores by air to LYDDA as previously arranged (o)

WP.2 B.O.A.C. and service Depts inform us that this line of communication is no longer operative (o) (?) suggestions to offer (o)

WP.3. What are the possibilities of collection of collection or delivery from Damascus or Amman to which points the Air freight can be arranged (o) Or could we despatch to Cairo and use Cairo - Haifa - Jerusalem rail link (o) Or is the route Alexandria - Haifa by warship, Haifa - Jerusalem by military

transport (1)

evacuation plans feasible (1)

S/1 IV/48.

(117)

Cypher ID/OTP TELEGRAM

Code

Clear

From :- CAIRO (Ambassador) To:- AMMAN

Despatched 21.35 1/5/48 Received 05.45 2/5/48

No. 45 of 1.5.48

IMPORTANT

RESTRICTED

Addressed to F.O. (1) Tel. No. 533 of May 1st
Rep'd for information Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jerusalem, Jedda, Amman, UK DEL New York, Washington ⊙

NP MIPT: Palestine ⊙

NP Azharite Ulema's pronouncement is likely to excite irresponsible and fanatical elements who have been clamouring for more energetic action by the Arab Govts and the Arab League ⊙ If the Egyptian Govt. as the M.F.A. has more than once assured me [see my tel. No 522] still remains reluctant to send Egyptian regular troops to Palestine they will be gravely embarrassed by any agitation which may result from this exhortation on the part of a religious body of supreme standing in the Moslem world and might feel unable to resist for long an intensive

and sustained popular clamour for urging intervention especially as the Opposition ~~Parties~~ parties would almost certainly ~~x~~ exploit it with the object of discrediting a HESITANT Govt.

F.O. pl. pass UKDel N.Y. as my tel 10 & W'ton as my tel 19.

Cypher ID/OTP TELEGRAM S/1/IV/4/48 (117)

Code

Clear

From :- CAIRO (Ambassador) To:- AMMAN

Despatched 21.35 1/5/48 Received 05.45 2/5/48

No. 45 of 1.5.48

IMPORTANT

RESTRICTED

Addressed to F.O. (1) Tel. No. 533 of May 1st
repd for information Bagdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jerusalem, Jedda, Amman, UK DEL New York, Washington ⊙

NP MIPT: Palestine ⊙

NP Azharite Ulema's pronouncement is likely to excite irresponsible and fanatical elements who have been clamouring for more energetic action by the Arab Govts and the Arab League ⊙ If the Egyptian Govt. as the MFA. has more than once assured me [see my tel. No 522] still remains reluctant to send Egyptian regular troops to Palestine they will be gravely embarrassed by any agitation which may result from this exhortation on the part of a religious body of supreme standing in the Moslem world and might feel unable to resist for long an intensive

Cypher M/OTP **TELEGRAM**

~~Code~~.

~~Clear~~

5/1024/4 (118)

2/5/48

From :- F.O. Sof S To:- ~~Amman~~

Despatched 1100 1/5 Received 1135 1/5 1930

No. 281 of 30/4

Top Secret

Addsd to Wton Tel N° 4707 of April 30th [(1)]

Reptd for infmn Ukdel New York, Cairo, Bagdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, ~~Amman~~, and B.M.E.O.[(1)]

~~Please~~ M.I.P.T.

Please give the gist of this conversation urgently to Mr MARSHALL following up your conversation with Mr LOVETT. You should tell him that in my view there is a chance of getting a truce provided strong enough pressure is brought to bear ~~on~~ the Jews as well as on the Arabs. We have already shown what we can do to hold the [-(1)-] ~~Arabs~~ and we shall continue to do so but the U.S.G seems to be doing very little in regard to the Jews and we really must call upon them to act urgently and resolutely to stop Jewish aggression

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

(119)

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H. M. Minister, DAMASCUS *To :—* H. M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 1.5.48 (21.43) Received 2.5.48 (05.45)

No. 55 of 1st. May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.230 repeated Cairo, Baghdad, Beirut, Jedda, Amman, Memin, Jerusalem, Ukdel New York, Washington.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No.575 to Cairo.

The Consular Committee in Jerusalem.

I have spoken to the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs who merely took a note of my remarks.

(

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

120

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~xx

~~Clear~~x

From :— H.M. Ambassador, CAIRO *To :—* H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 1.5.48 (21.55) Received 2.5.48 (05.45)

No. 48 of 1st. May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.537 of May 1st. repeated for information to Baghdad (1), Beirut, Damascus (1), Jedda, Amman, Jerusalem, Ukdel New York, Washington.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No.575: JERUSALEM TRUCE.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs undertook to take the matter up immediately in the sense desired. He said that the truce was really more in the interest of the Arabs than the Jews since the Arabs were really almost completely without arms.

F.O. please pass to Ukdel New York and Washington as my telegrams Nos. 13 and 22 respectively.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

121

Cypher (M/OTP)

Code

Clear

From :— S. of S. Foreign Office, LONDON. To :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 3.5.48 (01.29) Received 3.5.48 (10.45)

No. WASTE ~~208~~ 298 (~~Sic~~) of 3.5.48.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

TOP SECRET.& PERSONAL.

Following received from Palestine No.1228 (1) of May 2nd Addressed to Ambassador Cairo telegram No.90 (1) and B.M.E.O.

Repeated to Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Baghdad, Washington, Ukdel New York (1), Secretary of State and Amman.

BEGINS. I understand you have been informed that Arab forces moving across the frontier will be resisted. (1). You should know that the intention is to use strong air power for the purpose. As far as I am concerned there would be advantage in letting this be known but possibly the Foreign Office may (1) wish to comment. ENDS. (2).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

122

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:—* F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 1.5.48 (19.00) ~~Received~~

No. 273 IMMEDIATE of 1.5.48

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.273 of May 1st. repeated for information to :

Ukdel New York	No.21
Baghdad	No.45
Beirut	No.34
Cairo	No.49
Damascus	No.33
Jedda	No.24
B.M.E.O	No.38
Jerusalem	No.42

60

SECRET.

PALESTINE.

My telegram No.261 (of 29.4.48) about current events here.

1. The Regent left for Iraq yesterday afternoon by air leaving his military representatives behind.

The Prime Minister of Syria and the Chief of the Syrian General Staff arrived here by road the same afternoon. The visut was made of their own initiative and is a striking event after Syria's earlier refusals to treat Transjordan as an equal.

A representative of the Egyptian General Staff also arrived last night and all the military representatives are now embarking on the examination of technical details as foretold in paragraph 6 of my telegram under

reference /

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of - Page 2 -

Transjordan is represented by Abdel Qader el Jundi and Glubb does not attend.

2. The Syrian and Lebanese Prime Ministers have abandoned the idea of going to Riyadh and I understand that an Egyptian official of the Arab League has gone there instead.

The Iraqi Ministers returned here from Egypt with a scheme to induce King Abdullah to visit Beirut and Damascus accompanied by the Regent who was willing to go. The King flatly refused to do so and it was after his refusal that the Syrian Prime Minister decided to come to Amman.

3. As was anticipated it was suggested at an early stage that, as the Arab Legion was ready and on the spot, it should act at once without waiting for the other Arab forces to get into position. The Prime Minister of Transjordan made it quite clear that he would not act independently under the present decision in favour of joint intervention. He also insisted on Syria, the Lebanon and Egypt indicating now in clear terms the extent to which they would be able to help in men and equipment.

4. The burning question at the emoment is Jerusalem and the leaders here are torn between the fear of the Jews acquiring control over all Jerusalem on the one hand and the realisation of their own unpreparedness and my reiteration that nothing must bedone while the Mandate existed on the other hand. The position is potentially very dangerous and any indication that a Jewish occupation of Jerusalem was imminent would probably result in ill-considered action with a complete disregard of consequences.

5. Azzam /

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of - Page 3 -

5. Azzam told me that he had two Egyptian brigades on the southern frontier of Palestine and asked whether the British troops at Rafah would intervene if the Egyptians moved into Palestine and how long the British proposed to stay at Rafah. I replied as I understood the situation the British at Rafah would be bound to react to any move before the end of the Mandate. I had no knowledge of British plans about Rafah and was not likely to be given any answer on the subject.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

123

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H. M. Minister, AMMAN *To:—* ~~H.M.~~ F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 2.5.48 (20.05) ~~Received~~

No. 275 of 1st. May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.275 of May 1st. repeated for information to :

Ukdel New York	No.22
B.M.E.O.	No.39
Baghdad	No.58 SAVING
Beirut	No.64 SAVING
Cairo	No.63 SAVING
Damascus	No.58 SAVING
Jedda	No.59 SAVING
Jerusalem	No.74 SAVING

SECRET.

PALESTINE.

The Prime Minister of Transjordan spoke to me on the 1st. May about the position of Transjordan after the withdrawal of British troops on the 15th of May.

He said that he was convinced that U.N.O. would produce nothing of any assistance to Jerusalem by theend of theMandate and that even a force of 1000 international police was formed by that date it would obviously be inadequate.

He asked me to propose to you that the Arab Legion should be permitted to guard the Holy Places as internal security troops from the 15th of May until some satisfactory solution for the future of the city emerged from U.N.O. in which event the Arab Legion would withdraw to the Arab areas. He thought that this proposal might be put to U.N.O. by the British Delegation.

2. /

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of - Page 2 -

2. I replied that it would hardly be possible for the British Delegation to take the initiative in putting forward such a suggestion. His Majesty's Government could not make any arrangements for the future of Palestine after the end of the Mandate except in so far as they acted as one of the member states of U.N.O.

Moreover the proposal would obviously be represented as a trick of the British to perpetuate their own influence in Jerusalem through the army of a close ally.

I suggested that if the proposal was put to U.N.O. it should be done by the Arab states which were its members.

3. The Prime Minister took my points and promised to put the suggestion to other Arab states although he did not antiwipate that they would agree. He suggested that we might arrahge for the U.S.A. delegation to make the proposal.

I promised, at his insistence, to inform you of his proposal but I did not hold out any hope of you being able to do anything.

Foreign Office please pass to Ukdel New York as my telegram No.22.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

~~Cod~~ex

~~Clear~~x

From:—H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:*— F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 2.5.48 (20.05) ~~Received~~

No. 276 of 2nd May, 1948.

124

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 276 of May 2nd repeated for information to :

Ukdel New York	No. 23
Baghdad	No. 46
Beirut	No. 36
Cairo	No. 50
Damascus	No. 34
Jedda	No. 25
B.M.E.O.	No. 40
Jerusalem	No. 43

99

Your telegram No. 282 (of 30th April, 1948).

1. I took action in the sense directed but so much has happened since the 28th of April that I was met with the attitude that the frontier incident at Jisr el Mejami was over and done with and that there was now more important problems to solve.

It was felt however that the machinery proposed in paragraph 4 of your message could hardly be related to existing conditions.

2. I fear that there is little prospect of any further attacks by Jewish forces on Transjordan territory or on Arab Legion personnel being accepted without riposte.

In the incident in question it was only with the greatest difficulty that I prevented a physical attack across the frontier. As it was the action was

limited /

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

limited to silencing the Jewish fire by mortar shells.

Foreign Office please pass to Ukdel New York, Jedda and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos.23, 25, and 43 respectively.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:—* F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 2.5.48 (19.00) Received

No. 277 of 2nd May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.277 of May 2nd repeated for information to

Ukdel New York	No.24
Washington	No.14
Baghdad	No.47
Beirut	No.37
Cairo	No.51
Damascus	No.35
Jedda	No.26
B.M.E.O.	No.41
Jerusalem	No.44

PALESTINE TRUCE.

My telegram No.271 (of 1st. May1948). The representatives of the Arab States here have authorised the Secretary General of the Arab League to send a representative to Jerusalem to meet Truce Committee. I have not yet heard of a nomination.

Foreign Office please pass to Ukdel New York Washington, Jedda and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos.24, 14, 26 and 44 respectively.

Copy to:- S/1027/48.

(ASK/MH)

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T).

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

~~Cypher~~

~~Code~~

Clear

From :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:—* F.O. LONDON.

126

Despatched 2.5.48 (19.05) ~~Received~~

No. 278 of 2nd May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.278 of May 2nd repeated for information to:

B.M.E.O.	No.42
Cairo	No.52

110

PALESTINE HOLY PLACES.

Cairo telegram No.526 to you (of 29th April). Azzam spoke to me on the precisely the same lines and asked me to convey the message to you. I need not repeat the details.

Copy to:- S/1027/48.

(ASK/MH)

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

127

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:*— F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 2.5.48 (18.10) ~~Received~~

No. 279 of 2nd May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.
TOP SECRET.

PALESTINE.

Following for Burrows.

1. I have been given the following information in confidence and I shall be grateful if it could be used in a manner which conceals myself as the source. I believe it to be entirely reliable.

2. The Arab leaders recently in Amman decided that while they could not the offensive before the end of the Mandate they could not wait until then to move their troops into Palestine as this would give the Jews too great an initial advantage.

Syrian, Iraqi and Lebanese troops in the guise of volunteers will therefore enter Palestine territory on the 8th of May and take up positions in Arab areas. They will be ordered to avoid all contact with British and Jewish forces before the 15th of May.

3. The position as regards the Egyptian troops is not so clear as it would be difficult to conceal their move forward in open country and they are nervous about the British forces at Rafah. The point of Azzam's question referred to in paragraph 5 of my telegram No.273 (of 1st of May, 1948) is now evident.

4. As regards /

(122)

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

4. As regardsthe Arab Legion the Prime Minister avoided the issue by pointing out to the other Arab leaders that the Arab Legion was already in position in Arab areas of Palestine.

5. It was agreed that British representations on the subject should continue to be met by undertakings to do nothing before the end of the Mandate and that if the presence of the so-called volunteers in Palestine was discovered, the Arab Governments should deny all knowledge.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

~~Cypher~~

~~Code~~x

~~Clear~~x

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:*— F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 2.5.48 (18.52) ~~Received~~

No. 280 of 2nd May, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Please pass following to Jerusalem MOST IMMEDIATE as my telegram No.45. BEGINS.

Please regard the final paragraphs of today's telegram to you from King Abdullah as having been withdrawn.

(CMPG/MH)

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher (

Codexx

xGlearx

129

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To*:— F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 2.5.48 (24.02) Receivedx

No. 281 of 2nd April, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.281 of May 2nd repeated for information to :

Ukdel New York	No.25
Baghdad	No.48
Beirut	No.38
Cairo	No.53
Damascus	No.36
Jedda	No.27
B.M.E.O.	No.43
Jerusalem	No.46

106

SECRET.
GIANT. PALESTINE TRUCE.

Your telegram No.286 (of 1.5.48).

1. You will have seen from my telegram No.270 (of 1st. May, 1948) that prior to the receipt of your instructions I had spoken to the King and Prime Minister about extending the truce to all Jerusalem.

2. When I received your message I went to see the Prime Minister and he admitted that he and the King had failed to convince the others of the wisdom of this step, Azzam being the main stumbling block. They thought that a truce over all Jerusalem would affect their freedom of action after the 15th.

3. I saw Azzam this afternoon and after an hour's argument in which I had to overcome fantastic strategic considerations I feel that I have convinced him that it is in Arab interests to secure a truce over the

whole /

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of - Page 2 -

whole Jerusalem Municipal area and to hope that the truce would persist after the 15th. Azzam even came to the point of saying that if the truce survived the end of the Mandate if might be possible for U.N.O. to send someone to take over the municipal area.

4. The three Arab nominees will be FAUZI MULKI, Transjordan Minister for Foreign Affairs, TAQI EL DIN SOLH from the Lebanon and AHMED HILMI from Palestine.

Foreign Office please pass to Ukdel New York, Jedda and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos.25, 27 and 46 respectively.

Copy to:- S/1027/48.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

عبد الله بن الحسين

(130)

عمان فی ٣
الموافق

عزیزی سیر الیک الوزیر المفوض البریطانی

ارجو رفع البرقیه التالیه الی سعاده وزیر الخارجیه البریطانیه منتظرا الجواب المأمول والمانع لحدوث ما یکدر ، وسیبعث الیکم رئس الوزراء ببرقیتی للمندوب السامی ولکم عزیزی مع

عبد الله بن الحسين

180A

عمان فی ٢٣ جمادی الاخره ١٣٦٧
الموافق ٢ ايار ١٩٤٨

سعاده وزير الخارجيه البريطانيه

فی هذه الدقيقه تهاجم المنظمات اليهوديه حی القطمون العربی بالقدس الشريف وتهاجم القنصليه العراقيه الملكيه التی تدافع عنها فئه من جيش شرقی الاردن احتج على عملهم هذا والانتداب لم ينتهی والمندوب السامی يحمل مسئوليه الامن ارجو اصدار الامر لقوات جلالته البريطانيه فی ان يوقف هجومهم ويعادوا الى حدودهم وساعمل على ايقاف العرب ايضا عن التعدی • انتظر نتيجه رجائی ، وقد امرت باعداد القوه الكافيه لتقوم بحمايه ارواح العرب وقدسيه المسجد الاقصى وساكون على رأسها • فی حالة عدم ارجاعهم الى حدودهم ومنطقتهم

عبد الله

130B

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 629

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date 2/5

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
PRO Amman	(05.30)	2110
From:	Originator's No.	Number of Groups
PRO London	3 S/1074/48	110

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

132

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
	Most Immediate

29702. Following received from Palestine tel no 1287 of 2/5 begins: Protest purporting to come from MONARCH was telephoned to my house by some mysterious means this afternoon. Have no idea if genuine. If it is I trust you will do your best to prevent publication which would do damage. Short answer is that ARABS in KATAMON asked for a truce yesterday and we are still engaged in delicate negotiations which may affect all Jerusalem. Meanwhile I trust you will be able to prevent in future this direct approach to me which is most embarrassing. Surely normal diplomatic means are more seemly at present. I will telegraph more fully later. Bevin

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering	Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

THE BRITISH LEGATION,
AMMAN.

المفوضية البريطانية
عمان

3rd May, 1948.

(S/1014/48)

الرقم س/١٠١٤/٤٨ التاريخ ٣ ايار ١٩٤٨ .

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty,
AMMAN.

حضرة صاحب الجلالة الملك المعظم
عمان

I have the honour to refer to your letter of the 2nd of May and to inform you that I have despatched the message to Mr. Bevin after omitting the last sentence in accordance with the desire which Your Majesty expressed to me through the Prime Minister.

اتشرف بأن اشير الى كتابكم المؤرخ في ٢ ايار واحيطكم علما بأنني قد رفعت الرسالة الى مستر بيفن بعد حذف العبارة الاخيرة حسب الرغبة التي ابديتموها جلالتكم لي عن طريق رئيس الوزراء .

I have the honour to be,
Your Majesty's sincere friend.

لي الشرف بأن اكون
صديق جلالتكم المخلص

(Sgd.) A. S. KIRKBRIDE

ASK/MH.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

~~Code~~x

~~Clear~~x

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:—* F.O. London.

Despatched 3.5.48 (17.15) ~~Received~~

No. 282 of 3rd May, 1948.

SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.282 of May 3rd repeated for information to :

Jerusalem	No.47	
Baghdad	No.59	SAVING
Beirut	No.65	SAVING
Cairo	No.64	SAVING
Damascus	No.59	SAVING
Jedda	No.60	SAVING
B.M.E.O.	No.63	SAVING

PALESTINE. Palestine telegram No.1227 to you (your telegram No.297 to me)(of 2nd May, 1948).

1. My immediately following telegram contains the text of a message addressed to you by King Abdullah. The original version contained a statement to the effect that the King was proceeding immediately to Jerusalem at thehead of a force in order to protect the Holy Places. I secured the cancellation of this part of message and frightened the King in the process but the fact that he should seriously contemplate it is symptomatic of the state of mind which he has reached. He is not going to Jerusalem now but I am doubtful whether some such precipitate action can continue to be prevented in the face of the continued Jewish offensive. I took advantage of this incident to press the importance of securing a truce in Jerusalem.

2. Another /

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

2. Another serious development which I have to deal with is the Prime Minister's feeling that he is being faced with the alternatives of participating in an act of folly or resigning.

He will choose the latter course but the result of his leaving office would be the removal of all control over the King other than my personal influence.

3. A telegram to the High Commissioner was despatched containing the original statement about personal intervention before I knew about it. I suggest that it should be ignored.

F.O. please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No.47.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T) (S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

~~Cypher~~

~~Code~~

Clear

From:— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:*— F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 3.5.48. (11.00) ~~Received~~

No. 283 of 3rd May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.283 of May 3rd repeated for information to :

Jerusalem	No.48	
Baghdad	No.60	SAVING
Beirut	No.66	SAVING
Cairo	No.65	SAVING
Damascus	No.60	SAVING
Jedda	No.61	SAVING
B.M.E.O.	No.64	SAVING

PALESTINE.

My telegram No.282 (of 3.5.48).

The following is a translation of a message from King Abdullah which I have been asked to transmit to you telegraphically.

BEGINS. At this moment the Jews are attacking Arab KATAMON in Jerusalem and the Royal Iraqi Consulate which is defended by a detachment of the Arab Legion is also being attacked.

I protest against this action before the end of the Mandate and while the High Commissioner is responsible for public security.

I request that orders should be issued to His Britannic Majesty's forces to stop the attack and to return the attackers to their lines and I will act to prevent aggression by the Arabs. I await to know the result of my request. ENDS.

F.O. please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No.48.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

134

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN *To:—* F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 3.5.48 (13.20) ~~Received~~

No. 284 of 3rd May, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.284 of May 3rd and Jerusalem No.49 repeated for information to :

Ukdel New York	No.26
Baghdad	No.49
Beirut	No.39
Cairo	No.54
Damascus	No.37
Jedda	No.28
B.M.E.O.	No.

129

PALESTINE.

My telegram No.281 (of 2.5.48).

Azzam has asked that the truce commission in Jerusalem should be informed that the representatives of the Arab League are prepared to meet them at Jericho at any time appointed in order to discuss truce terms for Jerusalem.

He states that the Arabs will agree to an immediate cease fire in the whole of Jerusalem pending the negotiation of the truce. He hopes that it will be possible to get orders through to the local Arab commanders shortly.

I shall be grateful if this message could be communicated to the Commission.

Copy to:- S/1027/48.

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

(135)

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister,DAMASCUS. *To* :—H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 3/5/48 (11.52) Received 3/5/48 (14.45)

No. 57 of 2nd May, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.233 of May 2nd.

Repeated for information Cairo, Baghdad, Amman, Jedda, Beirut, B.M.E.O., UKDEL New York.

The Syrian Prime Minister told me this morning that he was leaving Tuesday for Riyadh for two day visit and would return via Baghdad.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York as my telegram 330.

Cairo please pass to B.M.E.O. as my telegram 101.

(PW/CJB/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T) .

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

136

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S. of S. Foreign Office LONDON. *To* :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 1. 5. 48 Received 2. 5. 48 (05.45)

No. 285 of 30th April, 1948.

TOP SECRET.

Addressed to Washington, Ukdel New York, Cairo, Baghdad, Jedda, Amman, Beirut, Damascus, B.M.E.O.

Following sent to Jerusalem telegram No. 1750 of April 30th.

BEGINS. Your telegram No. 1101 (incursion ?)s omitted by strong (1) bodies of armed forces of the Arab states.

The problem has been re-examined in the light of the decision conveyed to you in my tel No. 1689. If the Commanders-in-Chief M.E. have been instructed to use such naval, army and force reinforcements at their disposal in the M.E. to give effect to decision bearing in mind the consequences of any operations to this end are acceptable.

It is recognised that in spite of these decisions it will not bepossible with available resources to guard the whole frontier of Palestine and to prevent the movement of any Arab forces across the frontier. Nevertheless we hope that with extra resources now available it will be possible for us to intervene more effectively than of late as has been done in the case of Jaffa. Any threat to our essential communications or to our positions at Haifa and Jerusalem must of course be resisted with all the forces at our disposal. The question of intervention in other case where order is

disturbed /

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To* :—

Despatched Received

No. of

disturbed by forces from inside or outside Palestine will have to be decided according to the circumstances (1)of the case and the availability of resources. It is not possible to give any close definition in advance.

Strong representations are being made to the Arab states in support of this policy.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

Cypher (ID/OTP)

XXXXX

XXXXX

From :— H.M. Ambassador, CAIRO.

To :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN

Despatched 3.5.48 (11.25)

Received 3.5.48 (11.40)

No. 50 of 2nd May, 1948.

IMPORTTANT.

SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.543 of May 2nd repeated to Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, Jerusalem, Washington, Ukdel.

Your telegram No.588: Jerusalem Truce.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs willdo his (1) best in the sense desired (gr. omitted) while BEWAILING (1) the fact that as we are not so well placed in Jerusalem as at Jaffa to stop major fighting we prevent the Arabs from outside Palestine from helping us and their Palestine BRETHREN. (For general remarks of the Minister for Foreign Affairs occasioned by my representations in this connection and in connection with those instructed in your telegram No.581 see my immediately following telegram).

2. His Excellency expressed the hope that the terms of the truce would not be (1) humiliating to the Arabs.

3. His Excellency told me the Egyptian Government had communicated yesterday with the Arab Higher Committee in the sense desired in your telegram No.575 to me (1).

F.O. please pass to Washington and Ukdel New York as my telegrams Nos.23 and 16 respectively.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

138

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. To :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 2/5/48 (11.42) Received 2/5/48 (11.50)

No. 293 of 1st May, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to(1) B.M.E.O. telegram No.383 of May 1st.

Repeated for information to Jerusalem, Beirut, Damascus, Amman, Baghdad, Jedda, Washington and UKDEL New York.

Your telegram No.142. (93)

You will now have seen the telegrams from Jerusalem reporting what has been done by the British forces to restore the situation at Jaffa (e.g. Jerusalem telegram No.1194). Please (pointed - Sic) out to AZZAM Pasha that we have clearly shown our intention of maintaining (gp.undec.) as long as we hold the mandate.

2. The question of posting units of the Arab Legion at Jaffa to protect the city until May 15th therefore no longer arises,

----

PW

(PW/CJB/HA).

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM.

139

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 3/5/48 (13.40) Received 3/5/48 (14.45)

No. 296 of 2nd May, 1948.

SECRET.

Following received from Palestine telegram No.1224 of May 2nd.

Addressed (1) to Cairo telegram No.89 of May 2nd. Damascus, Beirut(1), Baghdad, Amman, Jedda and Washington - Begins.

I understand it was believed by many of those attending the recent discussion at Amman that the Palestine Mandate would end on May 5th and that our declaration that it would be relinquished no earlier than May 15th was merely a blind to cover the earlier withdrawal. I hope every opportunity will be taken to stress that May 15th is the true date explaining if necessary that even if we wished to we could not quit (? gp; omitted) sabotage United Nations efforts by leaving earlier.

142

(PW/CJB/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. TELEGRAM.

140

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, BAGHDAD. *To* :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 3/5/48 (18.55) Received 3/5/48 (19.15)

No. 63 of 3rd May, 1948.

SECRET. GIANT.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.473 of May 3rd.

Repeated for information to B.M.E.O. Cairo, Amman, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus, Washington and UKDEL New York.

Your telegram No.583 to Cairo.

All Government (gp.undec.? offices intended) were closed on May 2nd on the occasion of King Faisal's birthday. I was able, however, to see the Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the senior member of the Regent's staff and take action in accordance with your instructions. They promised to inform the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Regent at once.

2. I repeated my representations to the Regent this morning he said that it was AZZAM's intention to stay at Amman and not return to Cairo for the present: it should thus be easier to arrange suitable Arab representation in Jerusalem. He was very upset at the news which had reached him that the Iraq consulate had been BLOWN(1) up yesterday.

Foreign Office please pass to Washington and UKDEL New York as my telegrams 31 and 15 respectively.

(HIM/PW/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

141

Cypher ID/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, BEIRUT. *To* :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 3/5/48 (19.12) Received 3/5/48 (19.15)

No. 44 of 3rd May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.321 of May 3rd.

Repeated for information UKDEL New York, Washington, B.M.E.O., Cairo, Baghdad, Jedda, Amman and Damascus.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No.299(1) Palestine.

Action taken. The Minister for Foreign Affairs agreed and commented that if the truce area could be extended to the whole of Palestine so much the better.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York and Washington as my telegrams 18 and 17 respectively.

Cairo please pass B.M.E.O. as my telegram 93.

(HLM/PW/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

~~T~~ELEGRAM.

Cypher (M/OTP)

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

TO Pe

HMM 13/5/48

K12

From:— S. of S. Foreign Office *To:*— H.M. Minister, AMMAN

Despatched 3.5.48 (16.40) Received 3.5.48 (18.40)

No. 300 of 3rd May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Cairo telegram No. 596 of May 3rd and to Baghdad, Jedda, Amman, Beirut, Damascus.

Repeated for information to Ukdel New York, Washington and B.M.E.O.

Jerusalem telegram No. 89 to Cairo. (139)

I assume that as a result of your recent representations ~~to~~ the Government to which you are accredited are in no doubt about our determination to maintain the Mandate until 15th May repeate 15th May (1). If you feel that there is any chance (? of omitted) uncertainty on this point please make the position absolutely clear.

Cairo pass B.M.E.O. as my telegram No. 386.

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(144)

See Own Tel No 270

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

XXXXX

XXXXX

Clear telegram Out.

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN 4 S/1014/48.

From:- H.M.M. BEIRUT. to:- FOREIGN OFFICE.

No. 303 of 28. 4.1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem No. 48
B.M.E.O. No. 87

Cairo No. 27)
Bagdad No. 22)
Damascus No. 40) SAVING.
Jedda No. 22)
Amman No. 23.)

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 303 of April 28th repeated for information to Jerusalem, B.M.E.O. and saving to Cairo, Bagdad, Damascus, Jedda, Amman.

Haifa: press reaction.

Criticism of both the British and of Arab leaders has been bitter. The British are accused of -

(a) having stopped Arab reinforcements reaching Haifa,
(b) having gone back on their promise to remain responsible for Haifa until August 1st,
(c) having kept the Arabs but not the Jews in the dark as to their intention to evacuate,
(d) not intervening to stop bloodshed.

The British version of events and particularly statement that Arabs themselves by provocation were responsible for the situation has been badly received. Arab leaders on the other hand are accused of either being stupid or blindly led by others and are reminded that in either case they have lost prestige.

2. The anti-British tone has for past two days diminished in volume but not in pitch. Latest comment centres more on (a) loss of faith of Arab peoples in their leaders,

(b)/....

(b) the ineffectiveness of demonstrations, etc., and (c) need for immediate action by Arab armies.

Distribution:- 1. Chancery
2. H.M.M.
3. Library
4. I.O.
5. W/T.
6.)
7.)
8.) Saving copies.
9.)
10)

(W/T) FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

144

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To:—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 4.5.48 (18.33) ~~Received~~

No. 287 of 4th May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.287 of 4th May.

Repeated	to UKDEL New York	No. 28
	Baghdad	No. 51
	Beirut	No. 41
	Cairo	No. 56
	Damascus	No. 39
	Jeddah	No. 30
	B.M.E.O.	No. 46
	Jerusalem	No. 53

142

CONFIDENTIAL.

PALESTINE.

Your telegram No.596 (of 3rd May, 1948) to Cairo.

I have left no one in any doubt as to the date of the termination of the Mandate. There is still however suspicion that the withdrawal from Jerusalem will be made in such a way as to enable the Jewish forces on the spot to seize the city. I am countering this by emphasizing the importance of securing a lasting truce over the whole of the municipal area of Jerusalem.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York and Jeddah as my telegrams Nos.28 and 30 respectively.

(ASK/HLM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T) FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

145

~~Cypher~~

~~Code~~

Clear

From:— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To:—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 4.5.48 (18.25) ~~Received~~

No. 286 of 4th May, 1948.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.286 of 4th May.

Repeated for information to UKDEL New York No. 27

Baghdad	No. 50
Beirut	No. 40
Cairo	No. 55
Damascus	No. 38
Jeddah	No. 29
B.M.E.O.	No. 45
Jerusalem	No. 51

RESTRICTED.

PALESTINE.

The Iraqi troops have reached Mafraq where they will remain for the moment. Azzam went to Damascus this morning.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York and Jeddah as my telegrams Nos.27 and 29 respectively.

(ASK/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(N/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

146

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~x

~~Clear~~xx

From :— S. of Foreign Office LONDON

To :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 4.5.48 (11.20)

Received 4.5.48 (11.25)

No. 306 of 3rd May, 1948.

DEDIP.

IMMEDIATE.
TOP SECRET.

Addressed to Cairo telegram No.604 May 3rd Baghdad, Amman, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, repeated for information to Ukdel New York, Washington, B.M.E.O., Jerusalem.

Jerusalem telegram No.1228.

For your own TOP SECRET information Commanders-in-Chief M.E. have asked for instructions about the use of air attack on a much larger scale than hitherto against formed bodies of Arabs entering Palestine from neighbouring states. Instructions have been sent in reply (1) that no repeat no action is to be taken against formed bodies or unformed groups crossing the frontier unless they attack British positions or British communications or Jewish positions or settlements. In the case of attack on British positions or communications the local commanders will have the discretion to resist with all the means at their disposal including air reinforcements which are being sent in. In the case of (1) attacks on the Jews, intervention by British forces will be carried out on a similar scale to that employed recently e.g. in Jaffa. The decision to use the R.A.F. on a wider scale against attackers would if possible be (1) referred to His Majesty's Government

first. /

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of - 2 -

Only if this was impossible would the decision be taken by the High Commissioner and General Officer Commanding who are instructed (1) to bear in mind the grave political consequences in the neighbouring countries.

2. Air demonstrations over Palestine by night and day will in any case probably be arranged.

3. Recent top secret but reliable information suggests that the Arab states will not send in their regular forces as such before May 15th but will in a few days INFILTRATE members of their forces as volunteers with orders to avoid contact with the British and the Jews before May 15th but to establish themselves in Arab areas preparatory for operations on May 16th. If this intention is carried out it is hoped that the situation described above will not arise.

4. You should of course not repeat not tell the Government to which you are accredited of the above instructions as this would be tantamount to an invitation to cross the frontiers but you should bring to the notice of the Government to which you are accredited the news of British reinforcements which havenow been published and inform them once more that these reinforcements which include considerable air striking power are being sent with the object of enabling us to fulfil our responsibility for Palestine until May 15th and to take effective action against anyone who creates disorder there.

EGB ✓
HDLch/P.N.

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T)

(S/1014/48)

TELEGRAM.

146

Cypher (ID/OTP)

~~Code~~ x

~~Clear~~ xx

From :— S. of Foreign Office LONDON

To :— H.M. Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 4.5.48 (11.20)

Received 4.5.48 (11.25)

No. 306 of 3rd May, 1948.

DEDIP.

IMMEDIATE.
TOP SECRET.

Addressed to Cairo telegram No.604 May 3rd Baghdad, Amman, Beirut, Damascus, Jedda, repeated for information to Ukdel New York, Washington, B.M.E.O., Jerusalem.

Jerusalem telegram No.1228.

For your own TOP SECRET information Commanders-in-Chief M.E. have asked for instructions about the use of air attack on a much larger scale than hitherto against formed bodies of Arabs entering Palestine from neighbouring states. Instructions have been sent in reply (1) that no repeat no action is to be taken against formed bodies or unformed groups crossing the frontier unless they attack British positions or British communications or Jewish positions or settlements. In the case of attack on British positions or communications the local commanders will have the discretion to resist with all the means at their disposal including air reinforcements which are being sent in. In the case of (1) attacks on the Jews, intervention by British forces will be carried out on a similar scale to that employed recently e.g. in Jaffa. The decision to use the R.A.F. on a wider scale against attackers would if possible be (1) referred to His Majesty's Government

first. /

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

MESSAGE FORM

W/T Office Serial No. 638

Cipher Office Serial No.

Date 3/5

To:	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman	19.15	1700
From:	**Originators No.**	**Number of Groups**
London	3 S/1074/48	34

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

Special Instructions: ICP

Indication of Priority

30103 Your tel 284 ⊙
Please repeat – (1) Para 3
fifth sentence from quote
seriously prejudice
unquote to end of
sentence ⊙ (2) Para 3
(c) From quote direct
unquote to quote search
unquote ⊙ Bevin

Passed to No 270

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering

Cipher Clerks Initials

(S)9206m/GHQP/200,000/11-46

(W/T)

FILE NO.S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

148

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From:— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To:*— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 4/5/48 (18.40) ~~Received~~

No. 285 of 4th May, 1948.

147

Your telegram No.301 (of 3rd May, 1948).

Following are repetitions asked for.

Paragraph 3 fifth sentence quote seriously prejudice the original and reasonable plan of a campaign with which Transjordan started unquote.

Paragraph 3(c) quote direct with the Jews in search unquote.

(HIM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts 10/47.

(W/T)

FILE NO. S/1014/48. **TELEGRAM.**

149

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Ambassador, BAGHDAD *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 5/5/48 (20.50) Received 5/5/48 (21.05)

No. 65 of 5th May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

289

Your telegram No.52.

Paragraph 2.(1)

Please check and repeat from "these proposals" to the end.

(HIM/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts. 10/47.

(W/T) FILE NO. S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

150

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To :—* H.M.Ambassador, BAGHDAD.

Despatched 6/5/48 (12.00) ~~Received~~

No. 53 of 6th May, 1948.

149

Following is repetition asked for in your telegram No.65.

"These proposals and, in any case, what you wished him to do. Please send instructions as to reply".

(HIM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

MESSAGE FORM

(157)

W/T Office Serial No. 662

Cipher Office Serial No. 2000

Date 5/5

To :-	TIME OF ORIGIN	TIME OF RECEIPT
Amman		1440
From :-	**Originators No.**	**Number of Groups**
London		35

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN 5/JOR4/48

Special Instructions	Indication of Priority
Prodrome	Most Immediate.

1	31405 Your tel 289 ⊙ Please	4
2	repeat (1) First para first	8
3	sentence from beginning	12
4	to quote this morning	16
5	unquote ⊙ (2) Para 2	20
6	from quote what you wished	24
7	unquote to quote foreign	28
8	office please pass unquote	32
9	Bevin	36
10		40
11		44
12		48
13		52
14		56
15		60
16		64
17		68
18		72
19		76
20		80
21		84
22		88
23		92
24		96
25		100

Time of Enciphering or Deciphering | Cipher Clerks Initials

11263/PMEM/5-46-100,000

(W/T)

FILE NO. S/1014/48.

TELEGRAM.

152

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. *To :—* S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 5/5/48. (20.38) ~~Received~~ 151

No. 293 of 5th May, 1948.

Your telegram No.314 (of 5th May, 1948).

Following are repetitions asked for

(1) Quote King Abdullah told me this morning Unquote.

(2) Quote what you wished him to do. Please send instructions as to reply.

Foreign Office pleae pass Unquote.

(HLM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts 10/47.

(153)

To [illegible]

BRITISH LEGATION AMMAN

مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن

يجب ارسال هذه النسخة عند الاستعلام بشأن هذه البرقية

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM

Received at Amman وصلت مكتب		خاتم التاريخ
te 5/6 بتاريخ		
الساعة h. 08 الدقيقة m. 53 وقت الوصول		
قبلها المأمور [illegible]	تعليمات مصلحية : OBGS VR	

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No.	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
13	30	5	43	649	Jerusalem	

قبل الظهر a. m.
بعد p. m.

To. Prodrome Amman الى

Addressed damascus 1373 repeated amman 1374 if shaw palestine police calls at legation please ask him to contact inspector general earliest by telegram or telephone giving whereabouts and means by which

From inspector general can contact him at short من

4

ب هـ ٤

Received at .... وصلت مكتب	مصلحة البريد والبرق في شرق الاردن	ختم التاريخ
Date .... بتاريخ	يجب ارسال هذه النسخة مع كل استعلام بشأن هذه البرقية	
وقت الوصول الساعة h. الدقيقة m.	THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ANY ENQUIRY RESPECTING THIS TELEGRAM	
.... قبلها المأمور	تعليمات مصلحية :	

الساعة h.	الدقيقة m.	اودعت بتاريخ Date	الكلمات Words	الرقم الاصلي Original No.	المصدر Origin	الاشارة
قبل الظهر a. m. / بعد p. m.						

(11)

To. .... الى

notice chief secretary

From .... من

(W/T)

FILE NO. S/873/46.

TELEGRAM.

(154)

Cypher M/OTP

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON. *To :—* H.M.Minister, AMMAN.

Despatched 8/5/48 (10.15) Received 8/5/48 (10.20)

No. 340 of 7th May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Amman telegram No.340 of May 7th.

Repeated for information to Washington, UKDEL New York, B.M.E.O. Cairo.

My telegram(1) 733.

We have been considering whether or not the Foreign enlistment Act.1870 can be held to apply to British subjects at present employed by King Abdullah in the Arab Legion other than those who are seconded from the British Army if after May 15th a Jewish state is proclaimed in part of(1) Palestine and the Arab Legion becomes involved in war with that state.

2. Article 4 of the Act. (gp.undec. ? imposes intended) fine and or imprisonment for any person who: "without license of Her Majesty being a British subject within or without Her Majesty's Dominions accepts(1) or agrees to accept any commission or engagement in military or naval service of any foreign state at war with any foreign state at peace with Her Majesty and in this Act. referred to as a friendly state".

3/...2

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

3. A foreign state for the purpose of this act "includes any foreign (gp.undec. ? country intended) Colony province or part of any province or people or any person or persons exercising or assuming to exercise powers of Government in or over any foreign country colony province or part of any province or people".

4. The definition under article 30 is so widely drawn that it could be held to apply either to a self proclaimed Jewish state in Palestine or a self proclaimed Arab state negardless of whether or not(1) these states were recognised by the United Nations or by His Majesty's Government. Consequently any persoh falling under the definition of article 4 serving in the forces of a state at war with either the Arab or Jewish state would come under the terms of the act supposing that such states were at peace with the United Kingdom. The phrase "at war" can probably be taken for the purpose of this act as meaning "engaged in hostilities". It does not necessarily imply(1) a formal declaration of war by either party or even a recognised BELLIGERENCY by (mut.gp.).

5. It is however doubtful whether article 4 of the act applies to persons already serving in such forces before the outbreak of hostilities. It is impossible to(1) state categorically that the terms(1) of the Arab Legion engaged(1) by King Abdullah before any outbreak of hostilities between Transjordan and the PUTATIVE Jewish state would <u>not</u> be liable to penalties under the act since the interpretation of the act would be a matter for the courts if a prosecution were ever brought. But it seems to us probable that they would <u>not</u> be liable to the penalties.

6. The same considerations would seem to apply to Brigadier GLUBB and Mr.BROADHURST and Mr.LASH on the assumption that they sever all connection with the Colonial Service on May 15th since they already hold commissions or engagements in the Arab Legion (and therefore)(2) should two self proclaimed states be set up as suggested on May 16th it will probably be necessary to make a public announcement that the

act/...3

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

act would apply to persons thereafter going off to fight against either of these states. But since we cannot be sure that this state of affairs will in fact come about we do not propose to say anything in public in advance. It seems to us however that it is only fair to private individuals already serving in the Arab Legion(1) that they should be aware of the provision of the foreign enlistment act and of the fact that it is impossible to state categorically that they would not be held to (come - Sic) in all terms of the act if the Transjordan Government became engaged in hostilities with the self proclaimed Jewish state.

8. Please inform those concerned of the above.

Copy to: S/1014/48.

(CJB/PW/HA).

Wt.27078. D1749. 75m in 3 sorts. 10/47.

) (W/T)

FILE NO.S/873/46.

TELEGRAM.

155

Cypher

~~Code~~

~~Clear~~

From :— H.M.Minister, AMMAN. To :— S.OF S. F.O. LONDON.

Despatched 8.5.48 (20.20) ~~Received~~

No. 302 of 8th May, 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.302 of 8th May.

Repeated for information to UKDEL New York No. 34
Washington No. 15
B.M.E.O. No. 53

TOP SECRET.

British Officers in the Arab Legion.

1. I agree with the categories into which you divide the British Officers serving with the Arab Legion in general with the remarks which you make on the subject of their position after the end of the mandate. I would however divide category C into technical officers whose duties are principally at the base and commanders of combatant units.

2. It seems difficult to issue any instructions on the subject until we see how events shape after the 15th. As you say if there is an agreed truce the presence of British Officers with units of the Arab Legion serving as security forces should cause no difficulty The next alternative which I still think is the most probable to ari[se] is the occupation of certain of the Arab areas by the Arab Legion with no intention of attacking the Jews and the possible acceptance of both sides of this position, Jerusalem being excluded by a truce.

The third possibility is open warfare between the Jews and the regular Arab forces. I feel that this may be avoided although I do not exclude a few minor incidents or clashes under the second alternative. As the end of the mandate approaches there are an increasing number of signs of hesitation on the side of the Arabs of embarking on a war against forces of which they have no reliable estimate and for your top secret information there have been recent Transjordan contacts with the Jewish Agency and Haganah which indicate that the Jews too do not wish to clash with the Arab Legion. The danger is that some unforeseen incident will at the crucial moment bring about a general battle which neither side want[s]

3./...2

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts 10/47.

TELEGRAM.

Cypher

Code

- 2 -

Clear

From :— *To :—*

Despatched Received

No. of

3. You will of course realise that any action taken to deprive the Arab Legion of the services of its British Officers either by their withdrawal or by an order that they were not to accompany their units to Palestine could not fail to damage our relationship with Transjordan and would probably lead to sweeping changes in the future arrangements to officer the Arab Legion. If open warfare develops we may have to face these consequences but until that stage is reached I suggest that the combatant officers must accompany their units if these move into the Arab areas of Palestine. So long as they remain in command of their units the place from where the command is exercised does not seem important.

4. The scheme which was put to you in London by the Prime Minister was that there should be no aggression against the Jewish areas and if the Transjordan Government should depart from that scheme it would then be possible for His Majesty's Government to justify the withdrawal of the British Officers either from Palestine or altogether although that action would have the bad effect on our relations to which I refer. In spite of statements made for publicity purposes the intentions of both the King and the Prime Minister remain basically as explained to you. It is not possible however in present circumstances for them to indicate to the Arab world that they propose in effect to accept partition.

5. I have not been able to consult Glubb who is away and I have thought it best not to speak to the Prime Minister on the issue at this juncture.

Foreign Office please pass to UKDEL New York and Washington as my telegrams Nos.35 and 15 respectively.

Copy to:- S/1014/48

(ASK/MEM/HA).

Wt. 27078. D1749. 75m In 3 sorts 10/47.